

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

WILLIAM F. SALLADAY is numbered among the farmers and stock raisers of Jackson township and also among those who fought for the Union in the Civil war. He enlisted December 2, 1861, in the Sixteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, Company H, with which he served until May 14, 1862, and two years afterward re-enlisted in the Fifty-first Indiana, Company E, remaining with this command until the close of the conflict, and in the meantime taking part in the battles of Columbia, Franklin and Nashville, Tennessee, and in many skirmishes. After the close of the war he returned to the old Salladay homestead, of which he now owns thirty-four acres, but the boundaries of his farm include one hundred and four acres, all of which he has placed under an excellent state of cultivation

Mr. Salladay is a son of one of the early pioneer farmers of Jackson township, John Salladay, who was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, February 22, 1802, and was there married to one of the county's native daughters, Hannah Roberts, she being of English and Welsh descent, while Mr. Salladay was of German descent. They became the parents of nine children, four sons and five daughters, of whom William is the second son and seventh child. In an early day John Salladay moved with his family to Guernsey county, Ohio, from there to Noble county in the same state and thence to Clay county, Indiana, in 1854, locating on what is now the Salladay homestead in Jackson township. He bought two hundred and eighty acres here, but later gave eighty acres to his son-in-law, Jacob Barry, and with the aid of his sons he cleared about one hundred and sixty acres of his farm and made many improvements. He later bought one hundred and sixty acres adjoining the original purchase, and he lived on this farm until his death at the advanced age of eighty years. In his political allegiance he was first a Democrat and then a Republican, and he was a valued and worthy member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church.

William F. Salladay, a son of this well remembered Clay county pioneer, was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, December 26, 1839, and received his education in the district schools of Jackson township, Clay county, Indiana. On the 15th of November, 1863, he was married to Lucy J. Fugate, who was born in Clay county March 24, 1842, a daughter of another of the early pioneer farmers of Jackson township. Jahial Fugate. They have had nine children, namely: Joseph; Carry, wife of Frank Fields, of Terre Haute; Letha, wife of Frank Bemer, of Brazil; Luetta, wife of S. J. Young, of Tangier, Indiana; Irena, wife of John Ross, of Brazil; Mary, wife of William Stroble, also of Brazil; Bertha and Clyda, both deceased; and William L., all of whom were born and reared on the old Salladay homestead. Mr. Salladay is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and in politics has been a life-long supporter of Republican principles. He also has membership relations with the Methodist Episcopal church.

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Curtis G. SCOFIELD, one of the strong and able lawyers practicing at the Brazil bar, is a native of Illinois and a son of John and Nancy C. Scofield, in whose family were seven children, Lenore, Bernard A., Curtis G., Amy, Nannie, Blanch and John, Jr. The father is supervisor for the Vandalia Railroad Company, having been associated with the company for thirty-five years, or more. He is widely esteemed in Brazil because of his reliability in his business relations and the many excellent traits of character which he displays.

Reared in Brazil, Curtis G. Scofield pursued his education in the city schools, passing through consecutive grades until he became a high-school student. When his more specifically literary education was completed, he began preparation for the bar and matriculated in the Indiana Law School at Indianapolis, Indiana, and graduated with honors. Having secured his admission to the bar, he entered upon practice in the city and was elected to the office of prosecuting attorney of the thirteenth district in 1904. The zeal with which he has devoted his energies to his profession, the careful regard evinced for the interests of his clients and an assiduous and unrelaxing attention to all the details of his cases, have brought him a large business and made him very successful in its conduct. His arguments have elicited warm commendation not only from his associates at the bar but also from the bench.

Mr. Scofield wedded Miss Anna Brattin, a daughter of D. W. Brattin. She was born in Brazil February 26, 1882. Theirs is an attractive home, whose hospitality is greatly enjoyed by their many friends. They have one child, Lucia Caroline, born July 4, 1907. Mr. Scofield is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Elks.

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Occupying a place of importance among the leading merchants of Harrison township is Louis Schauwecker, of Clay City, the senior member of the firm of Schauwecker & Crabtree, dealers in hardware, furniture, and implements. A man of tried and trusted integrity, upright in his dealings, he is held in high respect throughout the community in which he resides. A son of Jacob Schauwecker, he was born August 30, 1851, in Coshocton county, Ohio, of German ancestry.

Jacob Schauwecker was born, reared and educated in Wurtemberg, Germany, and there served an apprenticeship at the tanner's trade. He afterwards went to France, and for a number of years followed his trade in Paris. Then, accompanied by three of his brothers, he came to the United States. Two of the brothers settled in New York, but the third brother, Fred Schauwecker, located in Coshocton county, Ohio, where Jacob joined him. Subsequently going to Bedford, Ohio, Jacob Schauwecker there took unto himself a wife, and for a few years worked at his trade in that locality. In 1853, with his wife and children, he came to Indiana, settling in Clay county. Here he bought forty acres of land, upon which there was a clearing of two acres and a small log cabin, into which the family moved. Soon afterwards he entered a tract of heavily timbered government land, established a tannery, and for about twenty years worked at his trade, and at the same time superintended the improvement of his homestead. He occupied the original log cabin but a short time, replacing it with a substantial house made of hewed logs, later building a commodious frame house. The last years of his life he devoted his attention entirely to farming, the many valuable improvements that he had made giving him all the comforts of an eastern home. He lived to a good old age, passing away in 1885. His wife, whose maiden name was Catherine Weinz, was born in Pennsylvania, of Dutch ancestry, and died a year before he did, in 1884. They were the parents of six children, namely: Mary. M., Louis, Louise M., Gotlieb, Saloma and Matilda. Saloma married Frederick Burkey and moved to Missouri, where a few years later her death occurred. The other children are all married and reside in Clay county.

But two years old when he was brought by his parents to Clay county, Louis Schauwecker has no recollection of any other home than this, his adopted one. The pioneer log house in which he attended school was rude in construction, with a puncheon floor, slab seats without backs, and no desks, a board placed against the wall serving instead, and the scholars taking turns in writing upon it. It had no windows, a board being raised to admit light. In his boyhood the family lived in true pioneer style, depending upon the productions of the soil and the game to be found in the forest for their subsistence, and wearing garments made by the mother from materials which she carded and spun and wove from either flax or wool grown on the farm. Reared to habits of industry, Louis began when a lad to assist in the tan yard, and afterwards on the farm. Subsequently, assuming the responsibilities of a married man, he located in Owen county, where for two years he operated a saw mill. Returning then to Harrison township, he was for a number of years engaged in agricultural pursuits, at the same time operating a threshing machine. Coming to Clay City in 1890, Mr. Schauwecker embarked in business as a dealer in furniture and hardware, and has continued until the present time, his son-in-law, George P. Crabtree, being now associated with him.

This enterprising firm has built up an extensive and lucrative business, carrying a full line of furniture, heavy and shelf hardware, stoves, carriages, and farm implements of all descriptions, and having a trade in these goods that is not surpassed in this part of the state.

Mr. Schauwecker was married, in 1874, to Hannah Gonser. She was born in Bowen county, Indiana, a daughter of Eli and Ellen Gonser, both of whom were born in Pennsylvania, of Dutch ancestry. Mr. and Mrs. Schauwecker are the parents of four children, namely: Nora B., Catherine A., William M. and Edgar J.

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Posey township of Clay county numbers among her native sons as well as her prominent agriculturists and stock raisers Henry Scherb, whose natal day was the 2d of August, 1860, and his entire life has been spent within its borders. He is now farming the old Scherb homestead here, which was the home of his father during many years of his life, and the farm contains one hundred and twenty acres of rich and fertile land.

George Scherb, the father, was one of the pioneer farmers of Posey township, but was born November 13, 1808, in the fatherland of Germany, in Bavaria. Coming to America in 1843, he located first in Ohio, but after remaining in that state for one year he went to Hendricks county, Indiana, where he was married, October 14, 1844, to Anna Margaret Fleischman, also of German birth, born October 20, 1819, and was reared in her native land. In 1844 Mr. and Mrs. Scherb came to Clay county, Indiana, and bought the place which has since become known as the Scherb homestead. At the time of purchase this land was heavily covered with timber, but he succeeded in clearing most of the tract and at the time of his death, January 11, 1892, owned a well improved and valuable estate of two hundred acres, besides the land he had already advanced to his children. The mother died December 31, 1907, at the ripe old age of eighty-eight years. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Scherb in Posey township, four sons and three daughters, and Henry was the youngest born. In politics Father Scherb gave his allegiance to the Republican party. The family are members of the Evangelical church.

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JOHN PHILIP SCHERB.—The son of an early pioneer family of Clay county, John Philip Scherb is well known throughout this section of Indiana as an upright, honest man, who has been intimately associated with the development of many of its industrial resources. Having lived thus far within its boundaries, he has witnessed wonderful changes come over the land. In his boyhood days school-houses, line churches, and costly residences were conspicuous only by their absence. The dense forests roundabout have given way to flourishing cities and towns or to magnificent agricultural estates, producing abundantly of the crops common to this locality. As a tiller of the soil, Mr. Scherb has actively assisted in this notable change, and at the same time has accumulated a goodly share of this world's goods, enabling him to live retired at his pleasant home in Clay City. A native of Clay county, he was born August 28, 1851, in Posey township, a son of George Scherb.

George Scherb was born in Germany, November 13, 1838. Left fatherless when thirteen years old, he worked at various employment for a number of seasons. Hearing of the wonderful opportunities for obtaining a living in America, he emigrated from his native land to this country when a voting man, crossing the Atlantic in a sailing vessel and being forty days on the water. After spending a brief time in Ohio he came to Clay county, locating in Posey township, which was then a vast wilderness, owned principally by the government. Selecting eighty acres of canal land, he walked to Vincennes to enter it at the land office. He also purchased a piece of land upon which there was a log cabin, and in this, their first home in this county, he and his family lived for a number of years. Neither railways, telegraph or telephone poles then disfigured the landscape, and but few of the present visible evidences of civilization existed. Terre Haute was the nearest market-place, Brazil being but a hamlet, and Bowling Green the county-seat. Deer, turkeys and other wild game were plentiful, furnishing supplies for the table, and the mother dressed her whole family in homespun of her own weaving and manufacture, while the father, with but a rude cobbler's outfit, made the shoes. With an energetic spirit and a pioneer's axe he began clearing and improving a homestead, and was there successfully employed as a tiller of the soil until his death, January 1, 1892. His wife, whose maiden name was Anna Margaret Fleschman, was born in Germany in August, 1813, and died December 31, 1907. Her father, Conrad Fleschman, was born, reared and married in Germany. After the death of his wife he came with his three children, Anna Margaret, Barbara and George, to the United States. George settled first in Hendricks county, Indiana, and later moved to Illinois, locating near Decatur. His father lived with him in Hendricks county, afterwards making his home with Mr. and Mrs. Scherb, but dying while visiting his son in Illinois. Seven children were born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. George Scherb, namely: John P., the special subject of this sketch; George C.; Anna Margaret; Mary E.; Magdalena; Henry; and John F.

In the rude log schoolhouse, with its slab benches, which had neither backs nor desks in front, John Philip Scherb obtained his elementary education. Reared to habits of industry, honesty and thrift, he began when a boy to assist in the work of the farm, remaining beneath the parental roof-tree until twenty-eight years old, in the meantime farming

a part of the time on his own account. Purchasing a tract of land in 1879 in section nineteen, Harrison township, he began housekeeping all by himself in the frame house which stood upon the place, but, it is needless to say, he did not remain a bachelor very long. He labored early and late, and each year added to the improvements already begun, placing the land in a fine state of cultivation, rebuilding and enlarging the house and erecting a large frame barn, his farm becoming one of the best in its appointments of any in the neighborhood. In 1907, relegating the care of his farm to his son Henry, Mr. Scherb removed to Clay City, and is there living retired from business cares, enjoying a well-earned leisure.

1884 History of Clay County, p. 457.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES. Posey Township.

J. G. SCHERB, merchant, Staunton, Ind., and born in Jackson Township, Clay County, May 25, 1851. His parents were natives of Germany, emigrating to this country in 1845, locating in Jackson Township, where his mother still lives--his father dying when he was two years old. His early life, until he was eighteen years of age, was spent on the farm, where he availed himself of such advantages of education as the common schools afforded. Desiring a wider field, he engaged in mining, where he acquired sufficient means to purchase, in 1873, a small store in Staunton, where he commenced the dry goods business. He is a popular and successful merchant, with a steadily increasing trade, owning at present one of the leading stores in the place. He is, politically, a Democrat, active in party work. He has been Councilman two terms, and Treasurer of the town of Staunton six terms. In 1882, he appeared as a candidate for County Treasurer, but was defeated. He was married, in the fall of 1875 to Lee, daughter of Thomas W. Maxey, and an accomplished young lady of Staunton. Four children have been born to them, three of whom are living. Mr. Scherb is one of the enterprising young men of Staunton, and a member of the Masonic fraternity.

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ULRICH SCHLATTER.—AS proprietor and manager of a well-tilled farm in Van Buren township, Ulrich Schlatter is identified with the advancement of the agricultural prosperity of Clay county. For many years he has been a resident of this vicinity, and is in all respects considered a valuable citizen of the township, fulfilling his duties and obligations as such with commendable fidelity. A son of John George Schlatter, he was born October 31, 1857, in Owen county, Indiana, of honored German ancestry.

John George Schlatter was born, bred and educated in Wurtemberg, Germany. In early manhood, seeing but little opportunity for accumulating wealth in the Fatherland, he turned his face towards America, and after a sixty days' passage on a sailing vessel arrived in New York city, he and his brother Martin being the only members of the family to cross the Atlantic. Proceeding westward to Ohio, he lived there until after his marriage, when he came to Owen county, Indiana, where for a time he was employed in farming on a tract of rented land. In 1871 he came to Clay county, and for a number of years lived in Harrison township, from there removing to Harmony, where his death occurred at the age of seventy-two years. The maiden name of his wife was Magdalena Schepper. She was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and died at her home in Indiana, aged three score and ten years. She reared a family of eight children, namely: William, Catherine, Mary, John, Ulrich, Barbara, Henry and Rosa.

Ulrich Schlatter attended school in both Owen and Clay counties, and when not occupied with his books helped his father on the farm. Beginning life as a miner at the age of seventeen, he followed mining almost continuously until 1907. Industrious, frugal and temperate. Mr. Schlatter harbored his resources, and ere long was enabled to buy a home in Harmony, where he was a resident for a number of years. He subsequently bought the farm he now owns, and which he has occupied since 1890. This farm, located in section twenty-three, Van Buren township, is well improved and is furnished with a good set of farm buildings.

On July 31, 1879, Mr. Schlatter married Louisa Wilson, who was born in Van Buren township, Clay county, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Von Cannon) Wilson. Her father came here from Ohio when a boy, his parents being pioneer settlers of this part of the state, he died when Mrs. Schlatter was but three years old, and her mother subsequently married William Craig. Mr. and Mrs. Schlatter are the parents of eight children, namely Oscar, Ervin, William, O'Dell, Iven, Rosa, Elzie, and Howard. Oscar married Jennie Reberger, daughter of Benjamin and Anna (Ford) Reberger, and they have one child, Mary F. Ervin married Eunice Frost, daughter of Samuel A. and Emma (Ward) Frost, and they have one child, Ulrich A. William married Selma Rojohn, daughter of Edgar Rojohn, and they have one child, William K. O'Dell is the wife of Burt Hughes. Politically Mr. Schlatter is a strong Prohibitionist, and upholds the principles of his party at the polls. Mr. and Mrs. Schlatter are liberal in their religious beliefs, and although belonging to no church organization accept all true Christians as brothers and sisters.

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FRED SCHULTZ.—FOr many years Fred Schultz was numbered among the prosperous and progressive agriculturists of Cass township, but now, in partnership with William W. Huber, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work, he is successfully engaged in the milling business at Poland. A son of William Schultz, he was born September 19, 1862, in Owen county, Indiana, where he received a practical common school education.

A native of Germany, William Schultz emigrated to the United States in 1829, being then about eleven years old, his birth having occurred in 1818. He subsequently located in Owen county, Indiana, where he entered a tract of wild land and from which he improved a good homestead. Industrious and thrifty, he became very successful as a farmer, and was an extensive landholder, owning land in both Owen and Clay counties. He died on his home farm in Owen county in 1901 at a venerable age. He was twice married. He married first a Miss Kattman, of German descent, and of their union three daughters and two sons were born, Fred, the subject of this brief sketch, being the youngest child. By his second marriage he had five children also, three sons and two daughters.

Becoming well drilled in agriculture when Young, Fred Schultz remained at home until twenty-three years old, when he moved to Cass township and rented his father's farm, of which he had charge for a number of years, in his operations being exceedingly prosperous. In 1901 Mr. Schultz bought an interest in the mill of Mr. Huher at Poland and has since been associated with him in business, being part proprietor of one of the leading industries of the place. This millsite is one of the oldest in this section of Clay county, and is liberally patronized, its customers coming here from many miles around.

Mr. Schultz married, April 21, 1887, Ella Harrison. She was born in Owen county, Indiana, where her parents, John and Amanda (Cochran) Harrison spent their lives. Politically Mr. Schultz is an influential member of the Democratic party. Religiously he is a valued member of the German Reformed church. Fraternally he belongs to Poland Lodge, No. 364.K. of P., in which he has filled all the chairs, and he is one of its punctual members.

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NICHLES SIEGELIN.—This gentleman, who is actively identified with the agricultural interests of Van Buren township, is pleasantly located in Knightsville, and is there successfully employed in the prosecution of his chosen calling. He was born October 6, 1848, in Germany, which was likewise the birthplace of his father, Michael Siegelin. His grandfather Siegelin was a life-long resident of that country, but his grandmother Siegelin, after the death of her husband, came to America and died in Cincinnati soon after her arrival in that city.

After learning the butcher's trade in his native country, Michael Siegelin served three years in the German army. In 1852, accompanied by his wife and their four children he emigrated to the United States, coming across the ocean in a sailing vessel and being forty days on the water. From New York City he came directly to Clay county, locating in Jackson township, where he bought a tract of government land. Clearing a space in the dense forest, he built a house of round logs, which was the family domicile for some time. In common with the other pioneers he suffered all the trials and privations incidental to life on the frontier. Neither telegraph, telephone nor railway lines were then in evidence, and the nearest depot for supplies was Terre Haute, while the present site of Brazil was then a wilderness through which the wild beasts roamed at pleasure. Clearing his land and replacing the primitive log cabin by a frame house, he there carried on farming until his death. His wife, whose maiden name was Sabilla Fishharber, was born in Germany and spent her last years on the home farm. Eight children were born of their union, as follows: George, Phillip, Margaret, Nichles, Palus, John, Eva and Benjamin.

Four years old when he came with his parents to Jackson township, Nichles Siegelin here obtained his early education, walking two and one-half miles to the rude log schoolhouse in which he learned to read and write. Under his father's instruction he became familiar with the various branches of pioneer farming, including the clearing of the land, remaining a member of the parental household until his marriage. For some time he subsequently worked by the month as a farm laborer, afterwards being engaged in coal mining for twenty years. In 1894, deciding to change his occupation, Mr. Siegelin purchased his present farm, which lies within the corporate limits of Knightsville. He has sold quite a tract of his original purchase, having at the present time one hundred and twenty acres of productive land in his farm, and this, with its good set of buildings and its other improvements, is one of the most attractive estates of the neighborhood.

On March 15, 1874, Mr. Siegelin married Caroline Sanderson, who was born in Jackson township July 1, 1851, a daughter of William Sanderson, familiarly known throughout the community as "Uncle Billy." Mr. Sanderson was born in Philadelphia, and, being left an orphan at an early age, was bound out. Not being well used, he ran away to join some cattle drovers, with whom he lived two or three years. Going to West Virginia, he there found a home with a widow, whose daughter, when he was eighteen years old, he married. This wife lived but a few years, dying in early womanhood. Mr. Sanderson subsequently married for his second wife Mrs. Elizabeth (Pullen) Moore, an attractive young widow. She was of English ancestry, both her father, Thomas Pullen, and her grandfather, Joseph Pullen, having been born in England. Joseph Pullen came

with his family to the United States just before the Revolution, and served bravely in the great struggle for independence. Settling in Rockbridge county, Virginia, after the war, he spent the remainder of his life there, being engaged in agricultural pursuits. After coming to America Thomas Pullen learned the trades of a cooper and a shoemaker, and worked at both during his earlier years. In 1839 he migrated to Indiana with his family, making the journey overland with two heavy wagons, one being drawn by six horses and one by four horses. He located in Clay county and in 1842 he bought land in Jackson township and spent the remainder of his years there, busily employed in clearing and cultivating the land. He married Betsey Groves, who was born in Holland and came to this country with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Groves, who settled in Rockbridge county, Virginia, where her father carried on general farming until his death, while her mother, being left a widow, came to Indiana and died in Union county.

After his marriage with Elizabeth (Pullen) Moore, William Sander-son came to Indiana and settled as a pioneer in Jackson township, where he bought a tract of land that was in its original wildness. Clearing a space in the dense wilderness, he built a house of round logs, and this was subsequently replaced by a more pretentious structure made of hewn logs. Industrious and persevering, he improved a good homestead, on which he spent his remaining days, passing away at the very advanced age of ninety-six years. He was a man of exceptionally fine character, kind-hearted and generous, and was loved and respected by all who knew him. His wife survived him, dying at the age of seventy-six years. They reared seven children, of whom but one besides Mrs. Siegelin is now living.

Mr, and Mrs. Siegelin have three children living, and three have passed to the life beyond, William and George having died in infancy and Michael B. at the age of ten years. Those living are Margaret, born February 22, 1881; John Nichles, born September 15, 1884; and Emma, born November 6, 1890. Margaret, who married Hugh McShanog, has three children, Oliver Ray, born August 17, 1901; Viola, born March 17, 1903; and John Nichles, born May 9, 1905. John N. married Emma Lawson, and they have one child, William Edward. Mr. Siegelin is a member of several fraternal organizations, belonging to Colfax Lodge No. 612, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; to Brazil Tribe, Improved Order of Red Men; to Knightsville Lodge, Knights of Pythias; while both he and his wife belong to the Daughters of Rebekah and the Pythian Sisters. Religiously the family are Methodists.

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Dempsey Seybold, son of Dempsey and Elizabeth (Kerr) Seybold, natives of Pennsylvania, of German and Irish descent, respectively, who emigrated from Kentucky to Indiana in 1818, locating in Parke county, entering a quarter section of land, on which the father soon afterward established a trading post and store. Here the subject of this sketch was born, September 8, 1828. Dempsey Seybold, Sr., was a soldier of the War of 1812, a Whig in politics, a man of industry and integrity, who died in the month of June, 1835, a victim of cholera, aged 44 years, and at the time of his death was probate judge of the county. Dempsey Seybold, Jr., grew up on the farm, of which he took charge when but fourteen years of age. At twenty-one he and a brother rented the farm. On the first day of June, 1850, he married Margaret Martin, of Parke county, who died August 17, 1863, leaving four of the seven children born to them. In 1864 he married Nancy F. Martin, sister of the deceased wife. She died in 1866, leaving one daughter. For his third wife he married Mrs. Mary Hansel, to whom were born two children. Dempsey Seybold has enjoyed the confidence and esteem of his neighbors and fellow-citizens all along through life. In 1857 he was elected a member of the board of township trustees, then re-elected to the same position. He has rendered the community a most substantial service in the settlement of estates, having disposed of thirty or more, some of which were much complicated, having rendered satisfaction in this capacity all along the line. In 1860 he was largely instrumental in organizing and putting on foot the Bridgeton district fair, and in 1879 was a member of the State Board of Agriculture, the first and only Clay countian ever honored with this position, and was also the superintendent of the cattle department of the state fair for the same year. In 1880 he was nominated by the Republican party for member of the State Legislature and defeated by a majority of only sixty-two votes.

Blanchard, Charles, editor. County of Clay, Indiana: Historical and Biographical. Chicago: F. A. Battey & Co., Publishers. 1884.

pp. 440-441.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES. Sugar Ridge Township

JOHN A. SHAFFER was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, May 20, 1838, and is the fifth of a family of fourteen children of Joseph and Frances Shaffer, both natives of Pennsylvania, and of Welsh-German lineage. He is by trade a blacksmith, having served his apprenticeship before coming to Indiana. He worked as a journeyman two years, commencing in 1857, then set up shop on his own account. He located in Center Point, Clay County in 1860, and has ever since been engaged in farming as well as blacksmithing. He has a farm one mile north of Center Point; it is well improved, with good dwelling of nine rooms, with cellar, and a commodious barn and outbuildings. The farm is well stocked and well watered; has all the necessary farm implements of improved patterns. About fifty acres of his farm are in grass and grain. His facilities for acquiring an education were limited. What he possesses in money, in property, or in knowledge, was obtained by his own mental as well as physical exertions. He owns a one-acre lot and his blacksmith shop in town. On April 28, 1861, Mr. Shaffer was married to Rebecca Potte, daughter of Alfred Potte, a native of France. Mrs. Shaffer has borne her husband six children, viz.: Elmer E., Harlan L., Laura E., Viola D., Gertie F., Minnie P. In politics, he is a live Republican; was raised a Whig. He never has lost a vote since his majority, his first being cast for Abraham Lincoln.

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In the last half century the lawyer has been a pre-eminent factor in all affairs of private concern and national importance. The man versed in the laws of the country, as distinguished from business men or politicians, has been a recognized power. He has been depended upon to conserve the best and permanent interests of the whole city and without him and the approval of his practical judgment the effort of the statesman and the industry of the business man and mechanic would have proved futile. The reason is not far to seek. The professional lawyer is never the creature of circumstance. The profession is open to talent and eminence or success cannot be obtained except by indomitable energy, perseverance, patience and strong mentality. Moreover, the analytical power and inductive train of thought necessary to the lawyer enables him to readily understand any situation and to combine its parts into a whole. Possessing the requisite characters of the able lawyer, Mr. Shattuck has attained distinction at the bar and, moreover, is a factor in corporate business interests, while in public life as mayor of Brazil his service has been characterized by all that is progressive in municipal affairs. His record stands in contradistinction to the old adage that a prophet is never without honor save in his own country, for Mr. Shattuck is a native son of the city which has honored him by election to its chief office and which through the consensus of public opinion accords him prominence as a representative of the legal fraternity.

Mr. Shattuck was born June 2, 1871, his parents being Volney B. and Henrietta Bessie (Pearce) Shattuck. The father, a native of Vigo county, Indiana, was born March 10, 1846. His paternal grandfather, Benjamin F. Shattuck, was born in New York, June 4, 1813, and in 1820 became a resident of Vigo county, Indiana, whence he removed to Clay county in 1847. His first wife died June 25, 1851, and on the 18th of May, 1852, he wedded Marian James, a native of Monroe county, Kentucky, born November 20, 1830. By his first marriage he had seven children. He resided in Williamstown, Clay county, until the autumn of 1855, when he took up his abode upon the present site of the city of Brazil, purchasing a large tract of land. As the years passed he prospered in his business pursuits and left to his family a valuable estate. By his second marriage there were born eight children. The death of the husband and father occurred June 14, 1871, and for some time he was survived by his widow, who managed the business interests of the estate. The family are all members of the Christian church and the name of Shattuck has in this county been synonymous with progress in material, intellectual and moral lines.

Volney Shattuck, father of our subject, was born in Vigo county, March 10, 1846, and was reared upon the home farm, early becoming familiar with all the duties and labors incident to its development. His educational privileges were somewhat limited owing to the primitive condition of the schools of that time, yet by industry and application he managed to acquire a fair business education and through reading and observation as the years have gone by has constantly broadened his knowledge. In 1864, at the age of eighteen years, he responded to the country's call for troops, joining the One Hundred and Thirty-third Indiana Infantry, after which he was stationed at Bridgeport, Alabama, until the cessation of hostilities. When the war was over he returned home and engaged in teaming and in the livery business. Later he established a grocery store, but as the venture did not prove remunerative he sold out in 1877.

He afterward filled the office of deputy under Sheriff Hagart and also under Sheriff Lankford, and, subsequently was appointed to a position on the police force. In the spring of 1881, when the police force was reduced to two patrolmen, the choice of the board was for Mr. Shattuck and Charles Hutchinson. He has been an officer loyal to the public interests in every respect and over the record of his official career there falls no shadow of wrong nor suspicion of evil.

On the 16th of September, 1869, Mr. Shattuck was married to Miss Bessie Pearce, a native of Ross, Herefordshire, England. She was a member of the Christian church and lived a life loyal to its teachings, passing away on the 4th of July 1895. By this marriage there were seven sons and two daughters: Roy L., whose name introduces this review: Ralph P.: Volta V.: Austin M.: Fred W.: Edna H.: who is engaged in teaching school : Essa M.: Scott, who lost his life through coming in contact with an electric wire and one who died in infancy. The father, Volney B. Shattuck still survives and is a respected citizen of Brazil. He belongs to General Canby Post, No. 2 G. A. R. and gives stalwart political allegiance to the Republican party.

Roy L. Shattuck, educated in the public schools of Brazil, passed through consecutive grades until he completed the high-school course by graduation with the class of 1888. He then took up the study of law and after private reading pursued a special course in law in the University of Indiana at Indianapolis. On the 5th of June, 1898, he opened an office in Brazil, and during the years 1901 and 1902 was associated in practice with his brother-in-law, Howard C. Carter. On the 5th of May, 1904, the present law firm of Shattuck & McNutt was organized. This is recognized as one of the strong law firms of the city and a liberal clientele is accorded them, connecting them with the most important litigation tried in the courts of the district. Mr. Shattuck's success in a professional way affords the best evidence of his capabilities in this line. He is a strong advocate with the jury and concise in his appeals before the courts. Much of the success which has attended him in his professional career is undoubtedly due to the fact that he prepares his cases with great thoroughness and care, preparing as well for the defense as for the attack. He throws himself easily and naturally into the argument with a self-possession and deliberation that indicates no straining after effect, but showing a precision and clearness in his statement, an acuteness and strength in his argument which speak a mind trained in the severest school of investigation and to which the closest reasoning has become habitual and easy.

Mr. Shattuck has not only gained prominence at the bar but has also made a record as mayor of the city which reflects credit upon himself and his constituents. He was elected to the office of chief executive of the city in May, 1903, by a large vote, and his first term of two years received public endorsement in the increased majority given him in November, 1905, when he was re-elected by the largest vote ever given a mayor of Brazil. He entered upon his duties resolved that he would be mayor of the city and that he would be controlled by no machine or "boss" rule, and in the discharge of his duties has displayed a sense of conscientious obligation which is an indication of that seemingly universal movement toward cleaner and higher politics. He has advocated reform, has stood for progress and has secured the adoption of various measures which have been of direct value to the city. While a stalwart Republican, he has not been partisan in the discharge of his duties, and ever places the welfare of the community before personal aggrandizement. Believing firmly in the principles of the Republican party, he has ever done what he could for its success and growth as a patriotic American citizen, and in 1892 served as secretary of the Republican county central committee.

Aside from his professional interests he is vice president of the Brazil Lumber Company and is president of the Brazil Amusement Company, which is capitalized for ten thousand dollars.

On the 7th of October, 1894, Mr. Shattuck was married to Miss Olive Carter, who was born in Bowling Green, Clay county, Indiana. March 17, 1871, a daughter of Major William W. and Lucy (Campbell) Carter. Her parents were married on the 16th of June, 1869, and had two children: Mrs. Shattuck, and Howard Carter, who engaged in the practice of law in partnership with Mr. Shattuck until his death, which occurred December 6, 1903.

Mr. and Mrs. Shattuck have become the parents of three children, but the second, Carter B., died in infancy. Those still living are Lucy E. and William B. In social circles Mr. and Mrs. Shattuck occupy a prominent position, while their own home is justly celebrated for its gracious and warm-hearted hospitality. Mr. Shattuck belongs to Centennial lodge, No. 541, A. F. and A. M.; Brazil chapter, No. 59, R. A. M.; and is a charter member of Elks lodge, No. 762, of which he has been exalted ruler for two terms, he is supreme counsel of the Home Defenders of America, and is a member of the Sons of Veterans. Throughout Brazil he is spoken of in terms of admiration and respect. His life has been so varied in its activity, so honorable in its purposes, so far-reaching and beneficial in its effects that it has become an integral part of the history of the city.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,

publ. 1909

JOSEPH E. SHERFEY, president of the Sherfey & Kidd Company, dealers in furniture, carpets, draperies and other goods of this line, doing an extensive business at Brazil, Indiana, was born in Fountain county, Indiana, April 7, 1843, and has the honorable distinction of having been one of the soldiers who put down the great Civil war. He is the son of David and Mary (McNeill) Sherfey. The father was born in Adams county, Pennsylvania, on what is now known as the battlefield of Gettysburg. The great-grandfather, Casper Sherfey, came from Germany in 1750 and located in Pennsylvania and became the father of fifteen children, a majority of whom reached maturity. The mother, Mary (McNeill) Sherfey, was born in Frederick City, Maryland, and by her marriage to Mr. Sherfey became the mother of nine children—six sons and three daughters—two of whom now survive—Samuel W. of New Mexico and Joseph E., who is the eighth child in his parents' family. The father came from Perryville, Indiana, about 1834 and was by trade a miller, which trade he followed throughout his entire life. He was a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal church and in political affiliations was a Whig, which was the forerunner of the present Republican party.

Joseph E. Sherfey was educated in the common schools of Perryville, Vermilion county, Indiana, and at Asbury University, Greencastle, Indiana, then in the winter of 1862-63 began teaching, and taught in the winter of 1865-66. In the summer of 1866 he opened a furniture store at Bainbridge, Indiana. One of the most important chapters in Mr. Sherfey's career, however, was the one relating to his Civil war record. He enlisted as a member of Company D, Fifty-fifth Indiana Regiment in July, 1862, for a three months' service and was shot through the left hip at the battle of Richmond, Kentucky, August 30, 1862. The rebels marched over him and later he found himself in a hospital; in the month of October, 1862, he was sent home on parole. In the spring of 1864 he enlisted in Company F, One Hundred and Thirty-third Indiana Regiment, for one hundred days and served at Bridgeport, Alabama, guarding General Sherman's rear until the term of his enlistment had expired. In the autumn of 1867 he moved to Brazil, Indiana, and has been engaged in the furniture trade ever since, except one year, when he was city treasurer. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Brazil Lodge, No. 264, A. F. and A. M.; also belongs to Brazil Lodge, No. 30, Knights of Pythias order and Ben Hur Court, No. 8. Other societies of which he is a worthy member are the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Brazil Lodge, No. 215 and Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, No. 762. He is a zealous temperance worker, and a firm believer in the principles of the Republican party. He was married October 20, 1869, at Bainbridge, Indiana, to Miss Helen E. Ader, daughter of David and Elizabeth (Aidridge) Ader. She was born in Putnam county, Indiana, December 1, 1845. Her father was born in North Carolina and came to Indiana at an early day, locating in Putnam county, where he followed farming and cattle raising. Politically, he was a Democrat. He was the father of four children, Mrs. Sherfey being the eldest child. His wife was a native of Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Sherfey are the parents of four sons and two daughters, as follows: David A.; Charles W.; Winfield E.; Mary McNeill; Elizabeth A.; and Henry E. Mr. Sherfey has in his possession a complete genealogy of the Sherfey family—dating from March 15, 1735.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

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REV. ALFRED SHIDLER.—A man of exceptionally fine principles, honest, industrious and persevering, Rev. Alfred Shidler bravely served his country during the Civil war as a soldier in the Union army, was afterwards an active and tireless worker for many years in his Master's vineyard, and is now successfully employed in tilling the soil, owning and occupying a fine farm in Lewis township. A son of Daniel Shidler, he was born June 30, 1847, in Berlin, or near that city, in Holmes county, Ohio. His grandfather, Isaac Shidler, whose parents were -Germans, was a native; it is thought, of Pennsylvania. From there he migrated to Holmes county, Ohio, at an early period of its settlement, improved a farm lying about three miles northwest of Berlin, and there resided until his death, at a ripe old age.

A young man when his parents removed to Ohio, Daniel Shidler there learned the blacksmith's trade, serving an apprenticeship of three years with John Korns, He subsequently opened a smithy at Berlin, and three years later established himself at a point three miles east of that place. Coming from there to Indiana in 1858, he spent a year in Jennings county, and then located in Clay county. Buying land about one and a half miles east of Middlebury, in Harrison township, he there followed his trade and superintended the management of his farm until 1880, when he went to Kansas, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying a short time later at the home of his son Henry, in Cherokee county. He was twice married. His first wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Lowry, was born in Holmes county, Ohio, of Scotch-Irish ancestors, and at her death, in early womanhood, left four children: John, Henry, Alfred and Isaac. His second wife, Mary (Culler) Shidler, bore him six children: George, William, Elizabeth, Clara, Oliver, and an infant.

In the public schools of Holmes county, Ohio, and of Clay county, Indiana, Alfred Shidler obtained a practical education, to which he subsequently added much by reading and study. After leaving school he worked with his father at the blacksmith's trade until after the breaking out of the Civil war, when his intense patriotic ardor was thoroughly aroused and he cheerfully responded to his country's call. In 1863, although but sixteen years of age, he enlisted in Company M, Seventy-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which afterwards became the Sixth Indiana Cavalry. Going south, he remained with his regiment in all of its marches and battles, including the Atlanta campaign, and was a part of a detail that started with General Stoneman to release the prisoners confined in Macon, but learned before reaching that city that they had been removed. The detail started to retrace their steps, but soon found themselves surrounded by a large force of Confederates, who captured the greater part of the men. Mr. Shidler was mounted on a mule, and attempted to flee from the enemy, but the mule was so slow that he jumped off, ran as swiftly as possible, and was soon joined by three of his comrades. After tramping four days and nights, sleeping in the brush day-times; he, with his companions, joined the command at Marietta, Georgia, and soon after proceeded to Tennessee, arriving in season to take part in the battle of Nashville, Mr. Shidler continued with his regiment until honorably discharged from the service in September, 1865.

Returning home, Mr. Shidler. worked with his father for a while, for a number of years following the trades of a blacksmith and a wagon and carriage maker in Harrison township. He was converted when a

young man, and in 1877 became an exhorter in the United Brethren church, doing such excellent work in that capacity that in 1889 he was licensed to preach, and joined the Lower Wabash Conference. For sixteen years Mr. Shidler was actively engaged in the ministry, having charge of several different circuits in both Indiana and Illinois. In Indiana he was pastor of Briley Chapel, Shady Grove, Pleasant Grove, Nye's Chapel, Grimes Schoolhouse, South Union, Wilson Schoolhouse, Otterbein. Six Mile, Union, Mount Pleasant, Mount Zion, Johnstown and North Union, and in Illinois was pastor of the churches in Long Point and Galton circuits. Since his retirement from the ministry Mr. Shidler has devoted his time and attention to general farming and stock-raising, living on the farm, in section thirty-three, Lewis township, upon which he settled in January, 1883. He has a good set of farm buildings on his place, and in his agricultural labors has been quite successful.

On October 15, 1868, Mr. Shidler married Elizabeth Brush. She was born in Harrison township, Clay county, Indiana, a daughter of William and Annie (Coopriider) Brush, and granddaughter of John Coopriider of whom a brief sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Shidler have seven children, namely: Theodore Curtis, Rosa Belle, William Willard, Otto Clarence, Alfred Clyde, Harley Boyd and Nora Ethel, Rosa Belle, wife of Henry McGinnis, has four children living—Willie Alfred, Jesse R., Otis Melvin and Harry C.—and has lost two, Charles P. having died when five years old, and Kinley dying in infancy. William W. married Novelle Stwalley, and they have had four children, one of whom, Oral Kenneth, died in infancy, and three are now living: Belden Given, Bertha Lucille, and Mabel Elizabeth. Otto C. married Hattie Dalgarn and of their four children, three are living—Vinie L., Theodore C. and Raymond C.—while one child, Tiney L., died in infancy. Alfred C. married Gertrude N. All, by whom he has three children—Eliza Glenn, Olive Fern and Arthur F. Harley wedded Miss Esta Keller. Nora E. is the wife of Arthur Jackson and has one child, Esta E.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

WILLIAM T. SLACK was born in Jackson township, Clay county, Indiana, and is now numbered among the general merchants of Ashboro. He is a son of Ira and Ruthanna Priscilla (Wheeler) Slack, also natives of Clay county, Indiana, and a grandson of William and Mary (Loudermilk) Slack, who were from North Carolina and were of English parentage. He is also a grandson of Thomas Wheeler, and both Thomas Wheeler and William Slack were among those who assisted in the early development of Clay county. They were farmers. Ira and Ruthanna Priscilla (Wheeler) Slack were married in Jackson township, this county, but a few years after left their farm and moved to Ashboro, where the husband enlisted in Company I, Eighty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, early in 1861 for the Civil war, and was wounded in the battle of Resaca. He died on the following day, and was buried on the battle ground. His widow married, some nine years later, Samuel France, and after a two years' residence in Prairie City, this county, she died and was buried in Zenor cemetery. She was the mother of two sons and a daughter by her first marriage, namely: Margie F., who became the wife of William Diel and died near Ashboro April 14, 1906; William T. ; ,and James, who died about the year of 1862. By her second marriage she became the mother of Joseph A., of Staunton, Illinois, and Cynthia J., now Mrs. Francis, of Clark county, Illinois.

After his mother's death William T. Slack lived with his paternal grandfather in Jackson township for three years, was one year with Thompson Booth, and he then lived with the widow Anninias Loudermilk until his marriage. With his young bride he located on a rented farm in Sugar Ridge township, continuing as a renter for about four years, and from that time until 1904 he was engaged in mining coal. On the 11th of August, 1905, he started his general store in Ashboro, and he has since bought a business building twenty-two by sixty feet, twelve feet high, and carries a complete line of groceries and general merchandise. He and his wife also own fifty-seven acres of land in sections 18 and 19, Sugar Ridge township, nine lots in Ashboro and their pleasant and commodious residence with one acre of ground.

They were married on the 3d of August, 1880, and Mrs. Slack bore the maiden name of Ida M. Moss, and was a daughter of George M. and Martha E. (Adams) Moss. Their children are: Lola M., born December 22, 1883, the wife of James G. Hicks, of Ashboro; Olive M., born September 6, 1885, at home; and Carrie Frances, born October 6, 1887, is engaged in teaching school. Mr. Slack is both a Democrat and an Odd Fellow, affiliating with Ashboro Lodge, No. 251, in which he has served in all of the offices and has been a representative to the grand lodge at Indianapolis, Indiana.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

Dr. Jacob Franklin SMITH, whose medical and surgical knowledge and skill is known throughout a wide radius about Brazil, Indiana, where he has long been known as an eminent physician, and in whom the people have the utmost confidence, is a native of Terre Haute, Indiana, born March 12, 1858, a son of George Washington and Mariah (Shelley) Smith, both natives of Ohio. The father died at the advanced age of ninety-three years, seven months and ten days, in 1906. His wife died aged thirty-three years, when Jacob F. was but one and a half years old. Of the four children born to George Washington Smith and wife, two are now living: Lucy A., wife of Joseph Stough of Brazil and Dr. Jacob F. The father was a tobacconist and farmer, he was a progressive man, liberal in his views and highly intelligent, hence had a large circle of friends and admirers. Politically, he was a Whig until the formation of the Republican party when he supported that to the end of his life. He had the distinction of casting a vote for the first standard-bearer of that party—Gen. John C. Fremont.

Dr. Smith was educated in the schools of Terre Haute, Indiana, and at Brazil. When seven years of age he accompanied his father to a farm where he remained three years, then removed to Brazil, Indiana, in 1875. At the age of seventeen years, having chosen medicine as his profession, he began the study of that science with Doctor T. A. Glasgo, a physician and surgeon of Brazil, with whom he remained until about 1879, having attended the Medical Department of the University of Michigan two years at Ann Arbor. After his course at the University, he began the active practice of his profession at Clay City, Indiana, where he soon achieved success and enjoyed a lucrative practice in medicine and surgery, he remained there two years and in 1882, sought out a wider field in which to practice and selected Brazil, where he located. Here he has won a wide and excellent reputation, especially in surgery and complicated cases, in his general medical practice. He is a close student, and great reader on modern discoveries in the science of medicine. He graduated with the class of 1886 from the Central College of Physicians and Surgeons. at Indianapolis. His skill and up-to-date knowledge enables him to successfully treat many difficult cases. He performed the first successful operation for gun-shot perforation of the intestines in Indiana ; also the first successful hip joint amputation within his state, in 1888. In 1896 he established a hospital which was known as Franklin St. Hospital. In 1908 he changed its name in honor of his son. Dr. Lester Franklin Smith, who died April 30, 1907. This hospital is devoted to medical and surgical cases.

Dr. Smith is a member of the Esculapian Society of the Wabash Valley Indiana State Medical Society Clay County Medical Society (of which he is an ex-president) member of Brazil Lodge, No. 264, A. F. & A. M. Chapter No. 59, Royal Arch Masons. In his political affiliations, he votes the Republican ticket nationally, but supports the man, who in his judgment, is best suited for the position in local affairs.

May 15, 1881, Dr. Smith was united in marriage to Miss Mary Barnett, who was born in Putnam county, Indiana, daughter of Lewis and Cynthia (Deal) Barnett, both natives of Indiana and to whom were born three children William T. Vinton Mary, wife of Dr. Smith. Her father was a farmer and a member of the Baptist church he supported the Democratic party. Dr. Smith and wife are the parents of five children,

two of whom died in infancy Shelley Lillian: Lester Franklin, who graduated from the Illinois Medical College with the class of 1906, and died at the age of twenty-three years, when just entering into what bade fair to be a highly successful career the other living child of Dr. and Mrs. Smith is Athane. The two who died in infancy were named—Vivian and Eileen.

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A practical and enterprising agriculturist of Van Buren township, Joseph M. Smith exercises great skill and excellent judgment in his chosen vocation, and during his many years of toil and labor has accumulated a competency. He is distinguished as a native-born citizen, his birth having occurred in this township January 19, 1857. His grandfather Smith was an early settler of Indiana, and but little is known of his history, excepting that he spent his last years in Rush county, where, it is thought, his son Perry, father of Joseph M., was born.

Left an orphan in childhood, Perry Smith was early thrown upon his own resources and he successfully paddled his own canoe, working at any honest occupation. He was employed in different places, for awhile being in Madison county. Coming from there to Clay county, he traded property for land in section three, Van Buren township, and at once began its improvement, his first work being to cut down enough timber to make room for a small log cabin, it being the one in which his son Joseph was born. This cabin he afterwards replaced by a more commodious one made of hewn logs, and it is still in excellent condition. By dint of hard pioneer labor he cleared quite a tract, and was here engaged in tilling the soil until his death in 1872. He was twice married. The maiden name of his second wife, the mother of the subject of this sketch, was Mary Harmless. She was born in Ohio, but came with her parents to Indiana when a girl, and here lived and died.

Joseph M. Smith received his early education in the district schools, and during his long vacations assisted his father on the farm, thus becoming early acquainted with agricultural labors. After the death of his father he continued to reside with his mother, and now, having purchased the interest of the remaining heirs, owns the old homestead. Possessing excellent business and executive ability, sound in judgment and a wise manager, Mr. Smith has met with eminent success in his operations, and in addition to owning the home farm of one hundred and fifteen acres has also title to eighty acres in Parke county.

In 1879 he married Laura E. Coleman. She was born in Mansfield, Parke county, Indiana, a daughter of Zopher and Tabitha Coleman. For a number of years Mrs. Smith has been an invalid, unable to fully enjoy the comforts of life. Fraternally Mr. Smith is a member of Carbon Lodge, No. 145, Knights of Pythias, and of Carbon Lodge, No. 693, Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

The Brazil Democrat

Col. John T. SMITH

Col. John T. Smith was born in Johnson county, Indiana, March 18, 1831. He grew up to manhood on the farm, with no other educational advantages than those afforded by the common schools of his county. A few months before he was of age, he met with a serious accident while felling timber in the woods, the accident resulting in the breaking of his right leg near the knee, his right arm near the elbow, besides other serious injuries. This misfortune changed the whole course of his life. After his recovery he entered college at Franklin, Indiana attending a few terms then moved, in 1853, with his father to Greene county and engaged for a few years in teaching school. In the spring of 1860 he graduated from the law department of Asbury University after which he located at Bloomfield, IN, and engaged in the practice of law. He assisted in recruiting Company F, Thirty-first Indiana Infantry, at the breaking out of the late rebellion and was mustered into the service as First Lieutenant September 20, 1861. January 4 1862 he was commissioned Captain, December 5, 1862 was promoted Major, February 11, 1863 was made Lt. Col., July 15, 1863 he was promoted Col. of the regiment and was discharged from the service March 12, 1865. The Colonel was present with his command and participated in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Stone River and Chickamauga, he was on the Atlanta campaign and in nearly all the engagements connected with the fall of Atlanta, took part also in the battle of Jonesboro, Georgia, Pulaski, Spring Hill, Franklin and Nashville, TN. He was popular with his officers and men and successful as a commander. On his return home, Col. Smith was elected Clerk of Greene County Circuit Court, serving five years. He is not rated as an office seeker, yet he has an even dozen commissions which have been issued to him by the different Governors of the State. The Colonel is a local preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church, possessing rare ability. he moved to Bowling Green in 1879, and served acceptably the Bowling Green Circuit one year. In 1854 he married Mary C. Armstrong. The couple have an interesting family of two boys and five girls.

The Brazil Democrat

December 1895

Brazil, IN

Louis Holtman, Publisher

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

WILLIAM C. SMITH, one of the thrifty agriculturists tilling the fertile soil of Clay county, Indiana, residing in Sugar Ridge township, was born in Anderson county, Kansas, January 8, 1863, a son of William and Mary (Harrison) Smith. William Smith, the senior, was a native of Rockbridge county, Virginia, and the mother of Owen county, Indiana. The former located in Poland, Clay county, Indiana, in 1850, and engaged in the practice of medicine, having married Elmira Phegley about 1852 she died in 1856, leaving one son, Powhatan D. Smith, who died in 1889. Mr. Smith for his second wife married Mary Harrison in 1858, and about that date gave up the practice of medicine and moved to Kansas, in which new state he took up the homestead on which his family resided until 1865, when they returned to Riley, Vigo county, Indiana where he resumed the practice of his profession. In 1890 Dr. Smith moved to Emison, Knox county, Indiana, where he continued his practice for a number of years, dying December 18, 1907, aged eighty two years. His wife died in Kansas about 1865, leaving two children: Mrs. Martha Weddle, of Clay county, Indiana, who died October 29, 1890, and the subject of this memoir, William C. Smith.

At the age of four years Mr. Smith went to live with G. W. Latham, of Clay county, and remained until he was nineteen years of age. He attended school at three school houses in Cass township, Clay county; also attended two terms at Valpariso, Indiana. When nineteen years old he set out to see something of the country in which he lived and led somewhat of a roving life until at twenty-five years of age he married (September 15, 1887) Elizabeth Fensel, daughter of John and Louisa Fensel, of Clay county, Indiana. After his marriage he moved to the farm on which he still lives, which is situated in Sugar Ridge township. In 1890 he purchased the farm, which contains eighty acres in section seven. When Mr. Smith bought this land it was not improved and he has made substantial improvements, including ample barns and other necessary buildings; also added a good five room house, with summer house and kitchen. He has several acres of fruit-bearing trees and bushes which afford an abundance of fruit for family use and marketing purposes. At this date (1908) he is tilling his place in a thorough manner, and designs making it one of the valuable places in the county for its size. His method is to do diversified farming. He is being assisted by Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Robertson, who now live on his farm and with whom he makes his home.

On May 27, 1902, Mrs. Smith died, leaving one son, Robert H. Smith. On November 25, . 1903, Mr. Smith married Mrs. Xenia Fogle, daughter of John C. and Melisia Moss, of Sugar Ridge township, and who died February 7, 1907.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

Conspicuous among the successful farmers and extensive stock-growers of Clay county is William F. Sonnefield, who for many years has been actively identified with the agricultural progress and prosperity of Cass township, owning and occupying one of the most magnificent farming estates within its limits. A native of Clay county, he was born July 26, 1852, in Washington township, a son of Frederick Sonnefeld. He comes of thrifty German stock, his grandfather, William Sonnefield, having been born, bred and married in Germany.

Coming with his parents from the Fatherland in 1833, Frederick Sonnefield lived for a few years in Ohio, and then with his parents came across the country with teams to Owen county, Indiana. After his marriage he bought land in Washington township, and after living there a few years sold out and bought a farm in Cass township, where he continued as a tiller of the soil the remainder of his life. On February 21, 1850, he married Minnie Frank. She was born in Germany, and came with her parents, William and --- (Knippe) Frank, to Union county, Indiana, in 1837. Her parents subsequently removed to Owen county, this state, and there spent their remaining days.

The only son in a family of seven children, of whom but four are now living, William F. Sonnefield remained at home until his marriage, attending the district schools in his boyhood, and obtaining a practical knowledge of agriculture. Buying then a portion of the parental homestead, he erected a good set of buildings, including a two-story, eight-room house, barns, and other necessary outbuildings, and turned his attention to farming in earnest. Prosperity has followed his footsteps, smiling on his every effort. From time to time he has bought other land, owning now nearly the whole of the parental homestead, and having title to over nine hundred acres of improved land, all being located in Cass township. As a stock-raiser Mr. Sonnefield is particularly fortunate, his horses, cattle and hogs, all of the best grades, doing well under his wise management, and as a general farmer he stands second to none in the township.

On December 11, 1879, Mr. Sonnefield married Fredericka Kattman, who was born in Washington township, Indiana, August 4, 1852, a daughter of Christopher and Clara Margaret (Menke) Kattman, natives of Germany. Her grandparents, John G. and Catherine (Cullenbergh) Menke, came to the United States with their family, hoping in this country to find remunerative work for their children. Christopher Kattman emigrated to this country about 1836, and for a few years thereafter worked as a stone mason and a stone cutter. In 1842 he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land in Washington township, where he cleared and improved a homestead. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sonnefield, namely: Clarence, born August 1, 1881, lives with his parents; Martha, born June 12, 1883, died in infancy; Walter, born December 21, 1885, died at the age of six years and six days; Mary E., born April 14, 1888, is at home; Henry A., born April 17, 1890, died in infancy; Roy Alvin, born May 21, 1891; and Lester, born September 12, 1895. Politically Mr. Sonnefield invariably casts his vote in favor of the Democratic party. Fraternally he is a member of Poland Lodge, No. 364, K. of P. Religiously, true to the faith in which he was reared, he belongs to the German Reformed church.

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Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

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A well known farmer and highly respected citizen of Perry township, Samuel Sparks has been actively identified with the agricultural development and growth of this part of Clay county for many years, having cleared and improved an excellent farm. During his long and busy life he has pursued the even tenor of his way as an honest man and a good citizen, and now in his declining years is reaping the reward of his persistent toil and enjoying the regard and esteem of his neighbors and friends. A son of Owen Sparks, he was born April 3, 1834, in Linton township, Vigo county.

Richard Sparks, grandfather of Samuel, was born in Virginia. and from there moved to Kentucky, where he resided a number of years. Coming to Indiana in pioneer days, he was an early settler of Linton township. This part of Indiana was then largely a wilderness, through which wild beasts of all kinds roamed at will, and in which the red man still had his home. Taking up government land, he cleared and improved a homestead on which he lived and labored until his death, at the age of seventy-five years.

A native of Kentucky, Owen Sparks lived there until after his marriage. He then came with the family to Honeycreek township, where his father had entered land for him, and for a few years made that his home. Locating then in Linton township, Vigo county, he purchased a tract of timbered land, and there built the log house in which the birth of his son Samuel occurred. Subsequently selling that place, he rented a farm near Terre Haute, where he lived until 1857. Coming from there to Perry township, he lived on rented land until his death, a year later. He married Lucinda Osborne, a daughter of Abner Osborne, another pioneer settler of Vigo county. She survived him a number of years, and reared eleven children.

Attending school in the rude log house, with its puncheon floor and stick and clay chimney, Samuel Sparks obtained a practical knowledge of the studies there taught. He was reared in primitive times, when his mother, like all good housewives, used to card, spin and weave the material from which the clothes of the family were made, she herself fashioning the garments without the aid of books giving the very latest styles of dress. As soon as old enough he began to help his father in clearing the land and tilling the soil, remaining with his parents until ready to establish a home of his own. Renting then a place upon which there was a log cabin, he and his bride began life together in true pioneer style, she doing her cooking by the open fireplace. Succeeding well in his agricultural work, Mr. Sparks subsequently bought forty acres of timber land in section thirty-three, and there built a good hewed log house, improved a large part of the land, and resided for several years. Buying then forty acres in section thirty-three, Perry township, he continued general farming, and afterwards bought eighty acres in section thirty-four, of the same township. He has now a finely-improved and highly-cultivated farm, and ranks well among the leading agriculturists of this part of Clay county.

On April 15, 1858, Mr. Sparks married Maria J. Jackson, who was born in Perry township, Indiana, November 11, 1840, a daughter of Samuel Jackson. Her grandfather, Thornton Jackson, moved from Fairfax county, Virginia, the place of his birth, to Clermont county, Ohio, where he was engaged in boating and fishing until his death, from cholera, in 1832. His wife, whose maiden name was Sophia Short, died in 1834.

Samuel Jackson was born June 29, 1812, in Clermont county, Ohio, and was there a resident until 1836. Coming then with his bride to Indiana, he made the journey with a pair of horses, bringing in a wagon all of his worldly effects. Locating in Perry township, he took up government land in section twenty-nine, and at once built a log cabin, riving the boards to cover the roof, which was held in place by weight poles made a stick and clay chimney and whip-sawed the boards for the floor. Clearing about forty acres, he lived there until 1853, when he sold out and bought canal land in section twenty-eight. It was covered with a heavy growth of timber, in the midst of which he erected a log house, which the family occupied a number of years. In 1866 he built a good frame house, in which he lived until his death, December 18, 1883.

The maiden name of the wife of Samuel Jackson was Mary Hixson. She was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, December 18, 1817, a daughter of Amos Hixson and granddaughter of Abner Hixson, who served for seven years as a soldier in the Revolutionary army, and spent his last days on a farm near Trenton, New Jersey. Amos Hixson was born in New Jersey and after learning the shoemakers trade removed to Pennsylvania. locating near Harrisburg. A few years later he migrated to Hamilton county, Ohio, making the removal on horseback, and being nineteen days on the way. Coming to Indiana in 1835. he bought a small piece of land in the northwest quarter of section nineteen. Perry township and there during the remainder of his active years followed his trade of shoemaker, living until ninety-one years old. He married Elizabeth Wolverton, who was born October 25. 1783, and died at the age of seventy-seven years. Their daughter Mary , who married Samuel Jackson attained the age of eighty-eight years, passing away December 25, 1905. She reared nine children, as follows Thornton Andrew Maria J wife of Mr. Sparks Amos William F. John M. Samuel Edwin and Mary Ellen. All of these children married and reared children.

Eight children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Sparks, namely Sarah A., Mary E., Hiram, James, William, George M., Stella J., and Owen. Sarah, who married James French, died at the age of twenty-nine years, leaving one son, Ray French. Mary E., wife of Edgar Stoneburner, has five children, Harlan, Elmer, Guy, Worth A. and Audrey May. Hiram married Ella Vandyke, and they have three children, Orville, Everett and Carl. James married Ella Dalrymple, and they have one son, Austin. William married Roxie Larew, and they have one son, Floyd. George M. married Donnie Jackson, and they have two children, Elva May and Mary J. Stella, the wife of Charles Fiscus, has four children, Ethel, Goldie, Lucy and Hazel. Mr. and Mrs. Sparks have one great-grandchild, Archie, son of Ray and Lula (Longnecker) French.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

HENRY SPELBRING is proprietor of that fine piece of agricultural property known as "The Indian Camp Stock Farm," located in section 5, Washington township, and as a prosperous and honorable German-American well represents the thrift and enterprise of his ancestral race transplanted to the broader fields and more favorable conditions of the United States. His father, John H. Spelbring, was born in Prussia, Germany, and came with his parents, George and Catherine, to Pennsylvania in 1836. His wife (formerly Hester Bauman) was born in the Keystone state, and soon after her marriage removed with her husband to Owen county, Indiana. The husband entered government land in Jackson township, cleared it of timber, cultivated and improved it, and upon that homestead were born the three daughters and five sons of his family. The faithful mother of the family passed away in 1857. In 1888, having reached a prosperous station in life, unclouded by questionable acts or methods, he removed to Poland, Washington township, where he died on the 5th of July, 1906.

Henry Spelbring was the third child in the family, and resided with his parents until he was twenty years of age, at that period of his life turning temporarily from the fields to the carpenter's bench. But after steadily applying himself to that trade for ten years, he returned to his old love by purchasing eighty acres of land in Washington township, upon which he erected such buildings as are now considered necessities in the establishment of the modern country homestead and farm. Improvements of the most substantial kind kept pace with additions to the land, until at the present time Mr. Spelbring and his wife own two hundred and seventy acres of as finely developed property as can be found in Washington township. Although general farming is conducted as an important feature of his interests, Mr. Spelbring makes a specialty of raising horses, cattle and hogs, and "The Indian Camp Stock Farm" is widely known for its excellent management and its fine specimens of live stock. Outside of this noticeable creation in the way of agricultural property, he is chiefly interested in his family (which is really first) his church and the fraternity, Knights of Pythias. In the latter he is a member of Poland Lodge No. 364, and has long been identified with the German Reformed church. In his political belief he is a Democrat. On March 16, 1876, Mr. Speibring was married to Miss Martha Kattman, who was born in Washington township on the 3rd of March, 1857. daughter of Christopher Kattman. The children born to this union are as follows Louis F., of Cass - township Orville, a resident of Poland, Indiana; Bertha, who married Rev. John Tapy, pastor of the Maplewood (Ohio) German Reformed church; Walter Grace Fred, Irvin and Roy, all of whom are at home.

1884 History of Clay County, Indiana;
Battey page 387, Biographical sketches,

Brazil City and Township.

A. J. Stapleton, proprietor of grocery, East Main Street, Brazil, Ind., was born in Vermillion County, Ind., February 27, 1841, and was a son of William and Elizabeth (Mossberger) Stapleton, who came to Clay County in 1851, where the father died the same year. Mr. Stapleton, being left without a father at so tender an age, had no educational advantages, but having an inquiring mind he acquired sufficient knowledge for business purposes, and has by his own exertions gained a competence, working at coal mining from 1861 to 1883, when he established his present business. He was married, in 1865, to Virginia Weir. Five children were born to them, two of whom are living, viz.: William H. and Inez M. In 1880, Mr. Stapleton lost his wife, when, on August 10, 1882, he married Mrs. Elizabeth Easter. She has two children by her former marriage, viz.: Elmer and Josephine. Mr. and Mrs. Stapleton are members of the Christian Church. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., Caledonia Lodge, No. 589, and his wife of the Rebekah Degree of the same lodge. He is a member of the Knights of Honor, and his wife of the Ladies of Honor, No. 676, Olive Lodge, at Brazil. Mr. Stapleton is energetic, favoring all public improvements, moral and temperate in his habits, and an honored citizen.

[ELIZABETH MOSBARGER married WILLIAM STEAPLETON in Montgomery County, IN, 8-16-1827]

A HISTORY OF CLAY COUNTY INDIANA
By William Travis of Middlebury
Reprinted by
Clay County Historical Society, 1972-1973

Vol. 1 pg 259

Owen T. Stark, native of Lewis Township, Clay County, born September 24, 1846, was brought up on the farm, meanwhile acquiring a fair education in the public schools. At the age of eighteen he enlisted in the Thirty first Indiana Infantry, was with his regiment every day of the Atlanta campaign, and participated in the battle of Nashville under General Thomas. At Kenesaw Mountain he was wounded by a musket ball, and later had his hip crushed in a railroad disaster at Columbia, Tennessee. He then accompanied his regiment to Texas, where he was afterward discharged from the service and returned home. In 1868 he married Miss Nancy M. Crist, daughter of Henry W. Crist, one of the good, solid old pioneers of the county. As an expression of the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens he was twice elected township assessor, and was three times chosen to assist in the appraisal of the real estate of the township. Through industry directed by intelligence and tact he acquired a good, comfortable homestead of eighty acres in his native township. In 1884 he was nominated and placed on the county ticket by the Democratic party for recorder, and elected, when he moved his family to Brazil. Following the expiration of his term of official service in November, 1888, he continued to reside at the county seat until the time of his death.

Copied by Mary E. Gardner

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

WILLIAM C. STEINER.—The native born citizens of Harrison township have as an excellent representative William C. Steiner, of Clay City, the son of Christian Steiner, one of the pioneers of this part of Indiana. He remembers the country when it was in its original wildness, the beasts of the forest roaming at large, and the Indians being numerous. The people lived in a most primitive manner, scarce even dreaming of the conveniences and comforts of to-day, which were made possible through their unremitting labors and privations. A life-long resident of Clay county, he was born December 10, 1852, of honored Swiss ancestry, his father and his grandfather, Peter Steiner, having been born in Canton Berne, Switzerland.

Peter Steiner worked at the carpenter's trade in his native canton, but with the small wages that he received found it hard to make more than a meagre living for his family. Therefore, in 1831, he emigrated with his wife and seven children to America, locating in Holmes county, Ohio, where he subsequently bought a home and worked at his trade of a carpenter until his death. After his death his wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Mosser, came to Indiana to live with her children, and died at the age of eighty-seven years in Clay county. She reared seven children, as follows: Annie, Elizabeth, Christian, John, Uriah, Peter and Annie Elizabeth.

Born in Canton Berne in 1817, in the month of September, Christian Steiner was in his fifteenth year when he crossed the ocean with his parents. He had attended school quite regularly in Switzerland, and after coming to this country learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for a number of years in Holmes county, Ohio. In 1852, characterized by the same motives that had previously inspired his father, he sought a more favorable location in which to bring up his family, and, accompanied by his wife, came with teams to Indiana, being two weeks in crossing the intervening country. Entering eighty acres of land in section fifteen, Harrison township, he built a log house, and in this primitive dwelling all of his children excepting the youngest were born. He met with encouraging success from the first, and in the course of time had his land finely improved, while a substantial frame house, barn, and other necessary farm buildings had been erected. There he lived happy and contented until his death, January 10, 1901. He married, in Holmes county, Ohio, Mary A. Baumgartner. She was born March 16, 1830, in Canton Berne, Switzerland, a daughter of Nicholas and Barbara (Mosser) Baumgartner, who were the parents of ten children, as follows: Christian, Elizabeth, Catherine, Samuel, Mary, Ann Elizabeth, Frederick, Simon, Philip and Caroline. The first five were born in Switzerland, the next was born on the ocean while the family were en route to this country, and four were born in Ohio. Nicholas Baumgartner emigrated with his family to America in 1832, and settled first in Holmes county, Ohio. Buying a tract of heavily timbered land, he cleared a part of it, then sold at an advantage, and subsequently bought and improved three other tracts of timber, the last one that he purchased being in Wyandot county, Ohio, where he improved a valuable farm of one hundred and twenty acres, on which he resided until his death in middle life. His widow survived him several years, dying in Upper Sandusky, Ohio. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Steiner was blessed by the birth of eight children, namely: William C., Sophia, Elizabeth, Caroline, George, Catherine, Henry and Matilda, Since the death

of her husband Mrs. Steiner has lived with her son Henry and his family on the old homestead in Harrison township, a hale and hearty woman both mentally and physically strong. Her eight children are all living, and she has now thirty-two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Both she and her husband were reared in the faith of the Reformed church.

William C. Steiner obtained his rudimentary education in the humble log building that was used for both schoolhouse and church. The seats were plain slabs, without backs, and no desks in front, the pupils learning to write on a board placed along the side of the room. It was a subscription school, and the minister, who was the teacher, taught nothing but German. At the age of sixteen years he attended the first free public school established in the township. Leaving home on attaining his majority, Mr. Steiner learned the carpenter's trade, which he has followed until the present time, his residence since 1881 having been in Clay City.

Mr. Steiner married, in 1881, Rhoda Burkhart, who was born January 18, 1851, in Coshocton county, Ohio, a daughter of Philip and Mary (Riddle) Burkhart, Mr. and Mrs. Steiner have but one child, Effie, who married Claude Markie, and has two children, Grace and Gretchen. In religious matters Mr. Steiner and his wife are consistent members of the Presbyterian church.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
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Among the representatives of commercial interests in Brazil is numbered William D. Stewart, who is successfully conducting a grocery store. He deserves representation in this volume by reason of the fact that he is closely associated with the present progress and prosperity of the city and also because he is a representative of one of the old pioneer families of the county. He was born in Williamstown, this county, September 5, 1851, his parents being James Harvey and Henrietta (Yocom) Stewart, both of whom were natives of Kentucky, the former born January 27, 1827, and the latter in 1829. Coming to Indiana in early life they were married near Cloverland, in Posey township, Clay county, and three children were born unto them, but two have passed away, leaving William D. Stewart, the second child, as the only survivor. The wife and mother died in 1853 and the father afterward married Catharine Russell, a native of Pennsylvania. Unto them were born five children, four daughters and a son, all of whom have passed away with the exception of the eldest, Mary, who is now the wife of Jacob Earlish, Sr. The father, James Harvey Stewart, left an orphan when quite young, was bound out to a Mr. Rogers near Crawfordsville, Indiana. While working for Mr. Rogers, they many times drove from Montgomery county to Cincinnati, Ohio, with wheat and there traded it for salt, bushel for bushel, showing the condition of the times then. When twenty years of age he hired a young man to serve out his time with Mr. Rogers, while he enlisted as a soldier of the United States army in the war with Mexico in 1847. He was honorably discharged the following year and returned to Indiana, after which he engaged in teaching school. Later he located in Turner, Indiana, in the blacksmith's business and subsequently carried on a shop at Williamstown and also in Staunton, where he died on the 12th of October, 1871. In politics he was a Union Democrat. In pioneer days he was a resident of Clay county and belonged to that class of representative men who in the faithful performance of each day's duties ably upheld the best interests of the community and promoted its general progress and improvement.

William D. Stewart in his boyhood days assisted his father in the blacksmith shop and was early taught the value of industry and energy as factors in active business life. In the winter months he attended school and in his youth he worked to some extent in coal mines, being thus engaged until April, 1883, when he entered the employ of Webster & Van Cleave, proprietors of a general mercantile establishment at Staunton. He was with that house for two years and in 1885 engaged in business on his own account, opening a meat market in Staunton, which he conducted successfully for about four years, when in 1889 he removed to Brazil and opened a grocery store. Here he has carried on business continuously since and in 1905 he built one of the first store buildings located in Brazil with cement floor throughout. He has a neat and tastefully arranged store, carrying a large and well selected line of staple and fancy groceries and as the years have passed has enjoyed a constantly increasing trade, which has come to him in recognition of his straightforward dealing, his earnest desire to please his patrons and his reasonable prices.

On the 13th of October, 1875, Mr. Stewart was united in marriage to Miss Juretta B. Kirk, who was born in Brazil, Indiana, May 19, 1854, a daughter of William and Sarah (Myers) Kirk. Her father was born in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1816 and died in 1883, while his wife,

a native of Orange county, Indiana, born in 1816, passed away in 1897. They were married in Clay county, this state, in 1836. The father came to Indiana in 1832 when fifteen years of age, driving across the country with teams from the old home in Kentucky to Orange county, Indiana. He made the trip in company with his parents and in 1836 he became a resident of Clay county, where he built a log cabin in the midst of the wilderness upon the present site of the town of Staunton. He aided in the pioneer development of that locality and subsequently removed to the site of Brazil. There he built a log house in the midst of the green woods, for the district was then an unbroken wilderness, giving no evidence of the influences of progress and civilization. He assisted in clearing away the timber and lived at that place until 1852, when he removed to Bridgeton, where he worked at the cooper's trade for James Mulligan, for about three years. He then returned to his first location in Clay county and in 1862 removed to Sullivan, Illinois, where he worked at the cooper's trade until 1866. In that year he again came to Clay county and spent his last days in Staunton. In politics he was a Democrat and both he and his wife were members of the Christian church. The family numbered nine children, including Mrs. Stewart.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Stewart have been born five children: Frances Annie, the wife of Monroe Williams; Sarah Catherine, the wife of Benjamin Cheek; Ralph William J.; Ray Austin; and Elizabeth La Vern.

In politics Mr. Stewart was a stalwart Democrat for many years, but in 1886 left the ranks of that party and endorsed the principles of the Prohibition party. He often casts an independent ballot, however, and does not consider that he is bound by party ties. While living in Posey township he served for a short time as justice of the peace but has never been a politician in the sense of office seeking. In July, 1875, he was made a Master Mason in Staunton Lodge, A. F. & A. M, and in February of the same year became a member of Staunton Lodge, No. 415, I. O. O. F. He has filled all of the offices in the latter organization, was noble grand and has been a delegate to the grand lodge of Indiana. For thirty-three years he has been a member of this lodge and has never asked nor received any benefit funds. In February, 1880, he united with the Christian church and his life has been in harmony with his professions, Men who know him trust him because he has proven himself worthy of their confidence. His life in all of its phases has been actuated by honorable principles and manly conduct and wherever known William D. Stewart is respected and esteemed.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. I,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

William Y. Stewart, native of New England, born February 13, 1817, in Hampshire county, Massachusetts. When he was but eleven years of age the family moved westward into the state of New York, and several years later to the state of Ohio, coming to Clay county, Indiana, in 1838, when the subject of this sketch was twenty-one years old. He acquired a fair education in the public schools of the several states in which he spent his boyhood, having taught several terms in New York and Ohio. He is credited with having taught one of the first terms of school at Brazil, with having suggested the name of the place, with having been instrumental, at least in part, in procuring the postoffice at Brazil, and with having performed a part, officially, in perfecting the organization of Dick Johnson township. He learned the carpenter trade and built some of the first houses in the town of Brazil. On first coming to the county he worked for Harvey D. Scott, who was then building the original Cunningham house, a mile west of Brazil, afterward the Dr. Usher place, and for fifty years past known as the Stough place.

The subject of this sketch was married three times, first in 1844, his wife dying in 1857; then in 1859, the second wife dying in 1870; then again in 1873, the third wife dying in 1881. Mr. Stewart was a devoted and voluminous reader, well informed, a ready talker on a great variety of topics and a genius in his line. He lived in Van Buren township, was an uncompromising Democrat, and was several times named in party conventions for nomination to county office. By way of identification he was universally known as "Yankee Bill Stewart," because of his New England nativity and ancestry.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

JAMES C. STONEBURNER.—Distinguished not only as a native-born citizen of Perry township but as a representative of an honored pioneer family, James C. Stoneburner is especially deserving of mention in a work of this character. Actively engaged in the prosecution of the calling upon which the wealth and prosperity of our country so largely depend, he is meeting with excellent success, and holds a good position among the valued agriculturists of his community. A son of the late Joseph Stoneburner, he was born on section twenty-one August 20. 1865.

Joseph Stoneburner was born in Loudoun county, Virginia. March 4, 1829, the son of John Henry and Sarah (Fry) Stoneburner, who were natives of the same state. Beginning life for himself as a farmer in Noble county, Ohio, he lived there until 1860, when, accompanied by his family, he came overland with teams to Perry township, Indiana, being sixteen days in making the journey, and located on an eighty-acre farm which he had purchased several years before. After living there three months, he bought one hundred and sixteen and one-half acres lying in sections twenty-one and twenty-two, all of which, with the exception of twenty acres of prairie, was covered with timber. He subsequently cleared almost the entire tract, and about 1872 purchased forty acres of adjoining land. About one-half of that was cleared, and the log house that stood upon the opening is still in existence, being one of the oldest log dwellings in the county. He was an unusually skilful farmer, and in addition to placing his land in an excellent condition was particular to keep his buildings, machinery, etc., in good shape, residing on his homestead until his death, April 22, 1888.

On September 22, 1851, in Noble county, Ohio, Joseph Stoneburner married Arletta Hartley, who was born March 24, 1830, in Warren county, New Jersey, a daughter of David B. and Phebe (Parks) Hartley, natives, respectively, of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. She is still living, making her home with her son James C. She bore her husband seven children, namely: Charles, of Denver, Colorado; Hartley, of Independence, Kansas; Emma, widow of the late Philip Coble, resides in Gory, Indiana; Joseph Edgar, of Perry township; Etta, widow of James Shaw, late of Perry township; James C., of this sketch; and John, of Corv, Indiana. The mother also brought up one other child, Audrey Stoddard, who lived with her from the age of six years until twenty years old.

Reared on the home farm, James C. Stoneburner acquired his early education in the old Center District School, obtaining a practical knowledge of the three "r's." After his marriage he bought a portion of the parental homestead, it being the last forty-acre tract purchased by his father, and has since carried on general farming in a most satisfactory manner, reaping abundant harvests from his well-cultivated and highly-improved land, his farm comparing favorably in its appointments with any in the neighborhood.

On June 14, 1888, Mr. Stoneburner married Lilly Cliver, who was born April 14, 1867, in Perry township, which was the birthplace, likewise, of her parents, Jonathan and Sarah (Donham) Cliver. Her paternal grandparents, Peter and Millie (Hixon) Cliver, and her maternal grandparents, Joseph and Lucinda (Jeffers) Donham, were all born in Ohio, and were afterwards pioneers of Perry township. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Stoneburner has been blessed by the birth of three children, namely: Grace Arletta, born March 16, 1891, is the wife of Charles Cromwell, of Perry township; Edna Irene, born September 10, 1897; and Vera Esther,

born October 4, 1902. Politically Mr. Stoneburner is a strong and earnest advocate of the principles of the Republican party. Fraternally he is a member of Clear Creek Lodge, No. 449, I. O. O. F. Religiously he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Cory, to which his wife and children also belong.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

JACOB H. STOUGH.—Jacob H. Stough has been an active factor in the affairs of this community for many years, but he is now living retired from active labor with the exception of superintending Cottage Hill cemetery, which is located on the old family homestead. He was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, November 13, 1845, a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Frick) Stough, natives of Pennsylvania, and a grandson of John Frick, of German parentage. Joseph Stough was a farmer in Pennsylvania, but in 1851 moved to Tuscarawas county, Ohio, and lived there until the spring of 1856. He then traveled with team and wagon to Lancaster, Owen county, Indiana, and in September of 1856 came to Clay county, Indiana, and purchased in Posey township two tracts of improved land, consisting of ninety-two and eighty acres each. He lived on this place until his death. He was born in 1807 and died in January, 1893, while Mrs. Stough was born in 1810 and died in 1884.

There were three sons and three daughters in their family that attained to years of maturity, and Jacob H. Stough was the fourth born. He received his educational training in select and high schools in Brazil, and in 1872 became identified with the ice business here, which he sold in 1893. He has served as the superintendent of Cottage Hill cemetery since 1876, and from July 1, 1893, until September, 1897, was the assistant postmaster of Brazil. During one year he was also the proprietor of a music and book store in this city, and was substitute mailing clerk of Brazil for years, serving both as assistant postmaster and mailing clerk during Cleveland's second term of office. Mr. Stough inherited part of the home farm of his father in Posey township, Clay county, in connection with two brothers, John and Joseph, and the land was worked by two of the brothers until 1898, when they rented the farm, and Mr. Jacob H. Stough has since lived retired, save to superintend the cemetery.

He married, September 12, 1881, Minnie F. Curl, born in Paris, Illinois, in August, 1859, a daughter of Jeremiah and Sarah Curl, natives of Ohio. The four children of this union are Grace May, Ralph A., Lester W. and Helen Marie, Mr. Stough is a Mason, belonging to the blue lodge, chapter and council.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

EDWARD FRANKLIN STRAUCH, the well known farmer and stock raiser of Washington township was born within the limits of the township where he has attained a substantial station on the 27th of March, 1870. He is a son of John and Mary (Knippe) Strauch, his father being a native of Germany and his mother of Union county, Indiana. On the paternal side his grandparents were John and Mary (Mann) Strauch, and on the maternal George and Margaret Knippe, all born in Germany, as were their ancestors or many generations. The father came with his parents to the United States in 1839, and until his death at Jeffersonville Indiana, in 1878, the grandfather was identified with the ministry of the German M. E. church. John Strauch, the father, settled down in Washington township, bought timber land, and also became an extensive dealer in horses. After also amassing quite a property in agricultural lands and becoming quite prominent as a Republican and a man of affairs, he died on his Washington township homestead on the 2nd of February, 1892. He was the first Republican sheriff of Clay county, and an honorable, useful citizen. His worthy widow, who was born in November, 1836, has resided with her, son, Edward F., since the death of her husband.

Edward F. Strauch, the fourth in a family of two sons and five daughters, has continuously resided on the old family homestead with the exception of two years after his father's death, when he was engaged in farming in Douglas county, Illinois, and two winters in Terre Haute, where he was employed in a dairy. He has had charge of the home farm, with fifty-one acres adjoining which he has purchased, and the entire property has been brought to a high standard of productiveness and attractiveness. He produces the general crops, and raises Pole Angus cattle, coach horses and Poland China hogs, as well as turkeys and chickens. Married December 22, 1897, to Miss Clara M. Kattman, he has become the father of the following: John Robert, born August 12, 1901; Ross William, born July 18, 1904, and Leona May, born December 7, 1907. His wife is a daughter of John G, and Sarah (Schroer) Kattman, and is of German parentage.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. I,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

David C. Stunkard, native of Ohio, born in Richland county, November 4, 1824, came with his parents to Clay county in 1839, when fifteen years of age, the family locating on Otter creek, south side, about two miles north of the site of the city of Brazil. where the father purchased land and proceeded, by the help of the family, to make improvement and provide a comfortable homestead. On the 11th day of April, 1850, he married Zorelda Cromwell, daughter of Thomas I. Cromwell, who then resided at Bowling Green. Soon after marriage he located in the town of Brazil and for a time kept hotel in the former Buskirk house, corner Main and South Franklin streets. Later he engaged in merchandising and the general commission business, operating also a lumber mill and stave factory. He is said to have been the first Clay countian drawn to serve as grand juror in the United States court at Indianapolis. In the early spring of 1860 he was appointed deputy United States marshal, to supervise the taking of the census of the county.

In the campaign of 1864 he was the independent or opposition candidate for the State Legislature, the competitor of A. C. Veach in his second race for the place. At some time in the year 1856 he was appointed postmaster to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Eli Hendrix, under whose administration he had the contract for the delivery of the mails from the Vandalia station to the postoffice, for which service he received \$10 per month, During his time as postmaster a fellow-citizen was not denied the privilege of the mails because he did not have the three cents to pay for a stamp. He was extended credit, and if he forgot to pay up the account was squared with the department by "Dave" Stunkard. In the spring of 1860 he resigned the position, succeeded by Robert Conley. At some time within the Civil war he occupied the present Rigby house as a hotel, which he vacated when purchased by Rigby, in 1866, and moved to Terre Haute, where he occupied and conducted the Buntin House, and here a tragic end befell him accidentally five years later. On Saturday morning, July 15, 1871, he took a loaded revolver from a drawer in the hotel office, saying that he must locate it elsewhere, to prevent his boys from getting at it, but instead of going at once upstairs, where he intended concealing it, he placed the weapon temporarily in his pocket, stepped out onto the pavement and sat down in company with several guests of the house who were awaiting breakfast. In the act of sitting down and at the same time pulling up his pants-legs (as men are wont to do) the arm of the chair (as it was supposed) contacted with the hammer of the revolver, causing a discharge, the ball entering the abdominal region, passing upward through the body and causing death from internal hemorrhage. Though a number of physicians and surgeons were summoned, the wound could not be probed and no aid could be rendered. He remained conscious until about 9 o'clock and died at 11:40 a. m.

President McKeen, of the Terre Haute & Indianapolis Railroad, provided a special train to carry the funeral party to Brazil, where the burial took place on Sunday following, attended by the Free Masons and other benevolent societies, the city military organizations, and a large concourse of the business men of the city. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. W. W. Curry of the Universalist church. There was a numerous spontaneous outpouring of his fellow-citizens of both Terre Haute and Brazil, to do honor to the memory of one who had risen from a humble station in life to prominence, influence and usefulness in society by indus-

try, rigid attention to business and indefatigable energy in its successful prosecution. Though all the while engrossed with a multiplicity of business cares during the years of his active career at Brazil, he was liberally endowed with responsive sympathy for humanity and was at all times approachable. Though sensitive to injury or offense and impulsive to resent any impugment of his honor and good intentions, he could not withhold the hand of reconciliation. While operating the old lumber mill, with the upright saw, which stood near the Vandalia Railroad, in the south part of town, he had a sawyer named Myers, who was afflicted with the drink habit, and at times was insolent when under the influence of liquor. At a time the two met at the old freight house by the side of the railroad track, a little distance west of the saw-mill, when, in a conversation, Myers called his employer a liar, who struck him a blow which knocked him down and off the platform, where he lay, making no demonstrations to regain his feet. Realizing that he may have injured Myers, Stunkard walked deliberately up into the town and instructed Dr. Bemis to go upon the scene, have Myers taken to his home, give him all the attention and treatment that he needed, then report to him his bill for payment. D. C. Stunkard was a soldier of the Mexican war and was also a second lieutenant in the One Hundred and Thirty-third Indiana Regiment (100-day men) in the Civil war.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

DR. JOHN D. SOURWINE., of Brazil, is one of its leading practitioners of medicine and surgery, as well as its most enterprising citizens, and is especially well known for his pioneer work in the promotion of its transportation facilities: He is a native of old Augusta, Marion county Indiana, born on the 4th of October, 1852, and received his earlier education in the common schools of Zionsville, Boone county, and of Greenwood, Johnson county, both towns of his native state. He first read medicine with Dr. A. W. Knight, in 1876. He came to Brazil in 1872 and later in 1876, engaged in the drug business with his father-in-law, Jonathan Crosdale. He sold his interest in the establishment in 1884, having been appointed postmaster of the city by President Cleveland. In 1887 he again engaged in the drug business, and in the following year acted as northwestern agent for the Phenix Powder Manufacturing Company, being at the same time a stock-holder in the business. It was in 1893 that he also assisted in the organization of the Brazil Rapid Transit Street Railroad Company, his chief associate in the enterprise being G. Vanginkl. The line was first built from Harmony to the western city limits of Brazil. and later was extended to Cottage Hill Cemetery, the Doctor being vice president of the company. As this was the first interurban line built in the United States, it is of interest to note that it was constructed entirely by the private funds of its promoters, without the issuance of bonds or stock. The builders operated the line until 1900, when they sold it to the Terre Haute Traction Company.

In the meantime Dr. Sourwine had been continuing his medical studies, had pursued a regular course in the Central College of Physicians and Surgeons at Indianapolis, Indiana, and had graduated in 1896, with the degree of his profession. He had entered practice and made a success of it, both by his professional competency and his genial ways. which go far toward leading a patient on the road to recovery. His able financial management was also in evidence in 1907, when he erected the Sourwine Opera House Block. This fine building, besides the handsome house of amusement with a seating capacity of twelve hundred, includes seven modern flats and six stores, and is one of the most substantial, as well as attractive structures in the city. Dr. Sourwine is one of the most widely known fraternalists of Brazil. He is a charter member of Brazil Lodge No. 30, Knights of Pythias, having held not only all the local offices but served as state representative to the grand lodge. He is identified with Centennial Lodge No. 541, A. F. & A. M.; Brazil Chapter No. 59. R. A. M.; Brazil Council No. 40, R. & S. M., and Brazil Commandery No. 47, K. T. To complete the record, he belongs to the Elks (B. P. O. E.), of the latter order being a member of Brazil Lodge No. 762. In politics, he is a Democrat.

The Doctor's parents were George and Polly (Jennings) Sourwine. The father was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, dying in 1901, at the age of seventy-one, and the mother was born in Bridgeport., Indiana, and died in 1903. seventy years old. They both died in Indianapolis.. Nine children were born to this union, of whom the following six are living : John D., who is the oldest A. J., a resident of Red Oak, Iowa Elizabeth, wife of George Clark Emma J.. wife of Leonard I Hodgins Jacob N., a druggist of Brazil, and George C., in the United States naval service, with the fleet which made the trip around the world. George Sourwine, the father. was by trade a blacksmith and a machinist, came to Marion county in 1835, and spent the remainder of his life, he was a

good Mason and a sound Democrat. The maternal grandfather of our subject and the father of William Jennings Bryan were cousins.

On the 13th of October, 1875, Dr. Sourwine married Helen Mar Crosdale, a native of Chillicothe, Ohio, born March 23, 1852, and a daughter of Jonathan and Esther (Perch) Crosdale. Mrs. Sourwine's parents were natives of Bucks county, Pennsylvania, each dying at the age of eighty years. She is the only one of the nine children now living. Her father was a tailor by trade, served in the Civil war, came to Brazil in 1854, engaged in the drug business and in 1877 retired from the strenuous activities of life, He was a Methodist, a Republican, a member of the Masonic, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias fraternities, and a practical, useful and moral citizen. Six children have been born to Dr. and Mrs. Sourwine as follows: three who died in infancy; John G., a druggist of Indianapolis, Indiana ; Clinton C. Sourwine, M. D., a graduate of the Indiana Medical College and since receiving his degree in 1906 associated with his father in practice, married Miss Eva H. Carpenter, of Brazil, Indiana, and Helen Irene, who died at age of eighteen in 1903.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

Among the sturdy, energetic and successful agriculturists of Clay county who are thorough masters of their calling and are therefore enabled to follow it with profit to themselves and the general progress of the community is Herbert E. Sutton, of Harrison township, who is widely and favorably known individually and as president of the Clay County Farmers' Institute. A son of Alonzo Sutton and descendant of a pioneer family, he was born on the 5th of November, 1870, being a native of Putnam county, Indiana. David Sutton, his grandfather, came to Indiana from Ohio in 1855, and after residing for a time in Jackson township, Clay county, purchased a tract of timber land in Washington township, Putnam county, where he subsequently improved the homestead on which he lived until his death at the age of seventy-eight years. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Price, survived him until she had reached the age of four score years and four.

Alonzo Sutton, the father, was of a family of five children. He was born in Clermont county, Ohio in 1845, and when ten years old came with his parents to Indiana, attending the district schools of Washington township, Putnam county, and assisting his father in the clearing of the homestead land and the improvement of the farm. When ready to establish a homestead on an independent basis he purchased land near the parental homestead in Washington township, a portion of this tract being cleared and having a log cabin as another feature of its improvements. With the brightening of agricultural prospects and actual condition as well, he bought adjoining land, including the old home farm, and is now the owner of a valuable estate of two hundred acres. He has erected substantial farm buildings, made other improvements and has all the appointments of a modern farmer and the prosperous urbanite. The elder Mr. Sutton married Miss Sarah C. Hutcheson, daughter of Peyton and Keziah (Morelan) Hutcheson, and their six children are Albert Luther, Herbert E., Clifford P., William H. H., James A. and Nellie P. Sutton.

Of a studious nature, Herbert E. Sutton was given excellent educational advantages, attending the public schools, the Central Normal College at Danville, and the State Normal School at Terre Haute. At the age of eighteen he began teaching in the Black Hawk district, Washington township, after which he taught one term in the primary school at Manhattan, three terms in Hutton (Vigo county) and eleven terms in Harrison township—a record of service that speaks for itself of his success as an educator. In 1897 he returned to the calling of his forefathers by renting land in Harrison township and engaging in general agricultural operations. Later he bought a fine tract in the fertile valley of the Eel river, and since that time has been very extensively employed in general farming, both as a renter and an owner of land. He gives special attention to the raising of grain, with corn as his chief and most certain crop.

On March 23, 1897, Mr. Sutton married Miss Sophronia Miller, a native of Sullivan, Indiana, where she was born on the 13th of January, 1872. At the time she was also a successful teacher, being a lady of thorough education and pedagogical training. After completing the graded course at Sullivan, Mrs. Sutton spent three years in the Terre Haute High School and a like period at the Indiana State Normal, after which she taught four years in Benton county and two years in Vigo county. Her father, James E. Miller, is now living in Danville, Illinois,

and was one of the pioneers of Sullivan county, Indiana. He is a native of Edgar county, Illinois, but when five years of age came with his father to that section of Indiana. He is a veteran of the Union army, and although he saw much active service and survived the dangers of the battle-field, he nevertheless narrowly escaped with his life, for while guarding a bridge he received a shock from a lightning bolt which nearly terminated his career and from the effects of which he has never fully recovered. His service in the Civil war was as a member of the One Hundred and Fifty-ninth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Mr. Miller married Miss Nancy J. Parker and their offspring are Sophronia (Mrs. Sutton) and Robert P. Miller. Robert and Mary Parker, the parents of Mrs. Miller, were pioneers of Vigo county, locating in Lost Creek township, her place of birth, and purchasing the farm on which they spent their last years. Mr. and Mrs. Herbert E. Sutton have three children, viz: James H., May C. and Edith L. Mr. Sutton's fraternal membership is with the F. & A. M. (Clay City Lodge, No. 562); he is a Republican in politics.

Biography Copied from Ninetieth Anniversary of the Founding of Zion's Reformed Church,
 Poland, Indiana (1840-1930),
 Rev. Matthew Worthman, Minister,
Printed by the Times Press, Brazil, Indiana

JOHN FRANKLIN TAPY
BIOGRAPHY

John Franklin Tapy, son of William and Josephine Tapy, was born on a farm in Clay County, Indiana, three miles southeast of the little village of Poland, October 17th, 1878. Rev. Peter Jorris baptized him in Zion's Reformed Church, Poland, December 25th, 1878. On the 31st of March 1893, he was received into full membership with the church by the rite of confirmation after several years of catechetical instruction. The laying on of hands in the confirmation service was performed by Rev. Wm. Grether. As a boy coming into school age he entered the rural grade school in the Schroer neighborhood in the fall of 1884 under the teaching of Lawrence Gray. Here a preparatory schooling was received in a day when the training was thorough, though not organized and systematic as it is today. The last teacher under whom this preliminary training was received was Harley Drake, of Bowling Green, Indiana.

After finishing the grade school work at Schroer School, two years were spent in advanced work in the Poland School. This was followed by one semester in Wiley High School, Terre Haute, Indiana, and in the fall of 1899 he was admitted as a preparatory student in the Indiana State Normal at Terre Haute, Indiana. Three years were spent as a student in the Indiana State Normal. In the fall of 1902 at the suggestion of Rev. H. H. Kattman, then pastor of Zion's Reformed Church, Poland, Indiana, application was made for entrance in the Heidelberg Theological Seminary at Tiffin, Ohio. The application was favorably acted upon by the proper authorities and in September 1902, he enrolled as a student for the ministry in Heidelberg Seminary, graduating from the seminary April 25th, 1905. He was examined and licensed by the Indiana Classis in session at Terre Haute, Indiana, in April of 1905. He was ordained and installed by a committee of Miami Classis at Maplewood, Ohio, July 16th, 1905.

On the 3rd of May 1905, he was united in marriage to Miss Bertha Spelbring, of Poland. Rev. H. H. Kattman, pastor of Zion's Reformed Church, officiating. This union was blessed with two children. Mary Elizabeth born December 25th, 1909 passed away at the age of 2 years and 8 months. Katherine Louise, born July 30th, 1918.

Rev. Tapy served the following charges: Maplewood, O., from May 16, 1905, to December, 1908, preaching at the three churches, Swanders, Maplewood and Bloom Center. From January 1909, to December 28th, 1919, Beaver Creek charge, Xenia, Ohio, serving two congregations, Beaver and Mt. Zion. From January, 1920, to June, 1925, Culver charge, Culver, Indiana, serving two congregations, Grace Culver and Zion Culver and supplying Twin Lake and Delong. For a number of years he served the church on the Board of Visitors of the Central Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio. One year as president of Miami Classis. One year as president of St. Joseph Classis. For six years he served on the Board of Trustees of the Ft. Wayne Orphans' Home during which time he held the position of secretary of the board and since July 1, 1925, has served in the capacity of superintendent of the Ft. Wayne Orphans' Home at Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

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NOTE: Copied from Ninetieth Anniversary of the Founding of Zion's Reformed Church, Poland, Indiana (1840-1930), Rev. Matthew Worthman, Minister, Printed by the Times Press, Brazil, Indiana

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

An esteemed and highly respected resident of Washington township, Henry Telgemyer is an honored representative of the early pioneers of Clay county, and a true type of the brave, hardy and industrious men who courageously dared the privations and hardships of frontier life in order to here secure for themselves and their descendants permanent homes. A son of Harman Telgemyer, he was born September 29, 1828, in Prussia, Germany, where he lived until about eleven years old.

In 1839, accompanied by his wife and children, Harman Telgemyer emigrated to this country, and for a year lived in Missouri. Coming then to that part of Clay county bordering on Owen county, he entered land from the government and had begun the improvement of a homestead when, seven years later, both he and his good wife died. He married Elizabeth Ahlemeyer, a widow with three children, and to them two children were born; namely Henry, the subject of this sketch, and Mena, who died in 1907.

After coming to Indiana Henry Telgemyer continued his studies for a time, attending a subscription school about six months a year. Leaving home after the death of his parents, he spent three years in the vicinity of the Rocky Mountains, prospecting for gold in Colorado, Montana, Wyoming, Idaho and Utah. Returning then to Washington township. Mr. Telgemyer bought eighty acres of land in section ten, one half of which was then cleared and under cultivation. He has since cleared and improved twenty acres more, and in 1890 erected a frame house, one and one-half stories in height, and has also put up all other necessary farm buildings for successfully carrying on his work. That he has witnessed wonderful changes in the landscape since coming here as a boy, the broad expanse of cultivated fields that occupy the places formerly covered with dense forests, the commodious and even elegant residences that have superseded the log cabins, and the long trains of palace cars that are used for transportation in place of the wagons drawn by horses or oxen, and the many telegraph and telephone lines now visible everywhere, are a strong testimony.

On November 4, 1875, Mr. Telgemyer married Celincla Ahlemeyer, who was born in Washington township, February 25, 1844, a daughter of Henry and Lydia (Bauman) Ahlemeyer. Her father was born in Prussia, Germany, and her mother in Pennsylvania, and after their marriage, in 1838, in Union, Indiana, they settled in Clay county. Mrs. Telgemyer was a widow when she married Mr. Telgemyer, and had two children by her first husband, August Haug, namely: Catherine Haug, who died at the age of nineteen years, and Joseph A. Haug, of Harrison township, Clay county. To Mr. and Mrs. Telgemyer five children have been born, namely: Clara E., wife of Robert Kirby, of Louisiana; Ida Mary, wife of Roscoe Capy, of Terre Haute; Estella M., wife of Oscar Keiser, of Washington township; Harry F., of the same township; and Roscoe W., who died in 1891, aged five years. Religiously Mr. Telgemyer is a member of the German Reformed church. Fraternaly he belongs to Clay Lodge No. 85, A. F. & A. M., of Bowling Green, and politically he is a sound Democrat.

Blanchard, Charles, editor. County of Clay, Indiana: Historical and Biographical. Chicago: F. A. Battey & Co., Publishers. 1884. pp. 484.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES. Sugar Ridge Township

SHALLUM P. THOMAS is a native of Clay County, Ind., born November 27, 1832, and son of James P. and Barbara (Barnett) Thomas, old and respected pioneers of Clay County who came to Indiana as early as 1811-12, stopping first in Vincennes, then in Spencer, Owen County, finally settling where Bowling Green now is, living there from 1814 until his death, which occurred in 1882. He often hunted deer where Bowling Green lies. Mr. Thomas lived at a place known as "Thomas Ferry" near Bowling Green, for over fifty years, then came May 1, 1883, to Center Point and engaged in a flour mill, which he had bought under the firm name of S. P. Thomas & Son. Its capacity is thirty barrels of flour per day, and it runs almost constantly, doing custom and merchants' work by a new process, with all modern improvements. Mr. Thomas is an energetic business man, and has been very successful in his undertakings as farmer, ferryman, thresher, etc. He owns one-half interest in a steam threshing machine. His early education was neglected for lack of opportunity, attending a subscription school, where he learned to read and write, and the rudiments of arithmetic, and has acquired an education sufficient for business purposes. Politically he is a Republican; was reared one. He was married, November 17, 1856, to Martha A., daughter of George Lucas, an old settler of Clay County. They have had four children -- Barbara A. (deceased), Timothy T. (deceased), J. L., infant (deceased). In 1854, Mr. Thomas took a journey of twelve months through Illinois, Wisconsin, Nebraska and Iowa.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

CAPTAIN EDWARD A. THOMPSON, who died at his home in Bowling Green, Clay county, on the 23rd of November, 1905, had already entered the seventy-fifth year of his age, and since early boyhood the strong and the good influences of that long life had been devoted to the development of Washington township along many lines of endeavor and progress. He was born in Jackson county, Indiana, September 7, 1831, a son of John D. and Elizabeth A. (Elsey) Thompson, the former, of Scotch-Irish extraction, being a native of Kentucky, born on the 10th of January, 1793, and the mother, of German descent, was a native of Virginia, born on the 15th of September, 1796. The father died April 13, 1881, at the age of eighty-nine years, and his widow passed away January 16, 1886. John D. Thompson first bought a farm in sections 16 and 17, Washington township, where the family resided for about two years, when he bought a hotel in Bowling Green, which he conducted until it was destroyed by fire. The homestead was then re-established on the old farm, but the parents finally returned to the town, where they passed their last years.

Edward A. Thompson came to Clay county from Jackson county, Indiana, when he was but a boy, and received his education in the district schools of Washington township. He had mastered the tailor's trade by the time he had reached his majority, but found that vocation too sedentary, and associated himself with a Mr. Hopkins in cabinet making, continuing to be thus engaged until the commencement of the Civil war. In the meantime he had become so proficient in instrumental music that he enlisted in 1861 as a member of the band attached to the Fourteenth Indiana Regiment, and in that capacity participated in a portion of the Virginia campaign of the Army of the Potomac. Desiring more active military service, in 1862 he joined the ranks of Company D, Seventy-first Indiana Infantry, but was elected first lieutenant, and as such participated in the battle of Richmond August 30 of that year. In that engagement he was severely wounded in the shoulder with a piece of shell, was soon after captured and paroled, returning to his home until he recovered from his injury. Upon the re-organization of the Seventy-first Infantry as the Sixth Indiana Cavalry, Lieutenant Thompson was promoted to be captain of Company M, which he helped to recruit, and served in that capacity throughout the war. The command with which he was identified was a part of the Army of the Cumberland, and its chief scene of operations embraced Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia. Captain - Thompson served with Stoneman and Kilpatrick in their celebrated raids, and was seriously wounded at the battle of Pulaski, Tennessee, in 1864. When he retired from service he was a major in the army.

At the conclusion of his military service Captain Thompson returned to the cultivation of his farm in section 16, Washington township, which he had purchased from his father, but in 1882 he moved to Bowling Green and formed a partnership with his brother in the dry-goods business. He thus continued until 1886, when he retired from active business, and continued in comfortable circumstances until the time of his death in 1905. The deceased was an old and honored member of the M. E. church of Bowling Green, and was also identified with the local Masonic lodge and the G. A. R. post. He was a man of many and warm friends, a brave soldier, and an active and able citizen.

Captain Thompson was married October 31, 1854, to Miss Cordelia

Sutliff, born in Lafayette, Indiana, November 3, 1833. daughter of Curtis H. and Jane (Blanton). Sutliff. The father was a native of Kinsman, Trumbull county, Ohio, and the mother was born in Virginia. Mrs. Thompson was quite a young child when her father died and her mother moved with the family to Bowling Green, where she resided until her death, February 15, 1894. Captain and Mrs. Thompson were the parents of four children, as follows: Alice, deceased Clinton M., whose biography is given elsewhere; Florence, who died in infancy; and John D. Thompson. The last named and youngest child was born in Bowling Green, being educated in the schools of that place and the district schools of Washington township. Except that for two years he assisted his father in his store, he has spent all his life on the farm.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

The development of a city depends not upon its machinery of government or the men who fill its offices, but upon those who are the promoters of its industrial and commercial activity, in which connection Thomas A. Thompson is worthy of more than passing notice in this volume. He has for a long period been connected with commercial circles in Brazil and is now partner in one of the leading grocery establishments of the city. He was born here October 27, 1871, and his life history is well known to his fellow townsmen, who admire him for what he has accomplished and for the honorable business methods he has followed in all of his trade relations. His parents, James and Mary A. (Spoor) Thompson, were both natives of England, but coming to America in early life were married in Hancock county, Kentucky. The father crossed the Atlantic on a sailing ship, and making his way into the interior of the country, settled in the Blue Grass state, where he became a mining superintendent. He afterward removed to Newburg, Indiana, there residing from 1868 to 1870, when he came to Brazil. Here he accepted the superintendency of the Maston coal mine, but afterward removed to Hoosierville, Indiana, where he became superintendent of the mines of Woodruff & Company, and also of the Ashley mines. His entire life was thus devoted to the development of the natural resources of the localities in which he lived, but at length he retired with a competence which he had won through his well directed labors, supplemented by his judicious and careful expenditure. He passed away November 9, 1897, and was survived for several years by his wife, who was born in England in 1825, and died November 20th, 1904. Their marriage was celebrated on the 30th of March, 1855, and unto them were born six children, but only two are now living, the elder being Ellen, the wife of Allen W. Bolin, a resident of Brazil. The father was an exemplary member of Brazil lodge, No. 215, I. O. O. F. He was also a consistent and faithful member of the Presbyterian church, and after becoming a naturalized American citizen he gave unfaltering allegiance to the Republican party. Thomas A. Thompson largely acquired his education in the public schools of Hoosierville, Clay county, following the removal of his parents to that place. He remained at home until twenty-two years of age, when he was placed in charge of the mine supply store of W. R. Risher & Company, at Hoosierville. He continued in that capacity for about four years, and in 1894 came to Brazil, where he established a meat market, conducting the business successfully until May, 1900, when he began dealing in staple and fancy groceries as a partner of William Collier. He is thus associated with the business interests of the city at the present time and is also a stockholder in the Brazil Clay Company and in the Citizens' National Bank.

On the 9th of July, 1893, Mr. Thompson was married to Miss Naomi Simonson, whose birth occurred near Brazil in Clay county October 31, 1873, a daughter of Isaac and Eliza (Berry) Simonson. Her paternal grandfather was Aaron Simonson, a native of Ohio, who came with his family to Clay county during an early epoch in its development and settlement. His son, Isaac Simonson, was born in the Buckeye state, but was brought to Clay county during his early boyhood and was here reared amid the wild scenes and environments of frontier life. He soon became familiar with the arduous task of developing a new farm, and the occupation to which he was reared he has made his life work. He still resides in Jackson township, this

county, and devotes his energies to general agricultural pursuits. He was married to Eliza Berry, a native of this county, who died at the age of twenty-three years, leaving three children, John W., Etta and Mrs. Thompson, the latter being but eleven months old at the time of her mother's death. Mr. Simonson was afterward again married, his second union being with Amanda Ellen Busby. Unto them were born six children, of whom five survive, namely: Myrtle, Rebecca, Margaret, Frank and Bailey. Mr. Simonson is well known in this county, where he has so long resided, his memory forming a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present, with all of its evidences of modern civilization. He belongs to the Methodist Episcopal church and has shaped his life in accordance with its teachings. His political allegiance is given to the Republican party, for he believes that its platform contains the best elements of good government.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson has been blessed with two children, Isaac Carl and Hubert Q. The parents are both well known in Brazil and the county, and enjoy the warm regard of a circle of friends which is constantly increasing as the circle of their acquaintances broadens. Mr. Thompson is very prominent in the Masonic fraternity, holding membership in Brazil lodge, No. 264, A. F. & A. M. He was twice Master of the lodge and is now a Past Master, and while he was serving in its chief office there were received more members in the lodge than in any lodge of the state outside of Indianapolis in the year 1903. Forty-seven members took the Master Mason's degree and the growth of the organization was attributable in large measure to the untiring efforts and zeal of Mr. Thompson, who was the youngest worshipful Master that has ever filled the position in Brazil lodge. He was acting grand junior warden at the laying of the corner stone of the Brazil library and also at the laying of the corner stone of the courthouse in Greencastle, Putnam county, Indiana. He has taken the degrees of capitular Masonry in Brazil chapter, No. 59, R. A. M., and belongs to Brazil commandery, No. 47, K. T. He is also identified with Brazil lodge, No. 215, I. O. O. F., and with the Modern Woodmen camp No. 3418. His political endorsement is given to the Republican party, but he is not active in its ranks as one who seeks or desires office. His interest is that of a public-spirited citizen who desires the welfare of the community and labors for its advancement in political as well as other lines.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

KINNEY THOMAS, superintendent of the county farm of Clay county, Indiana, which is located near Center Point, in Washington township, has been all his life a resident of that locality, engaged in agricultural pursuits during most of his mature life. He was born in Washington township on the 3rd of October, 1866, and received his education at the Center Point schools. His parents are Lewis S. and Mary A. (Lucas) Thomas, the mother being born in Montgomery county, Indiana, on the 4th of May, 1837, and the father on the old Thomas farm in section 13 of Washington township, January 5, 1839. They are now living in Vigo county, Indiana, the parents of four children, of whom Kinney T. is the oldest.

Mr. Thomas lived on the farm in Washington township with his parents until he was sixteen years of age, when he began work on his own responsibility as a farm hand. He was thus employed for about five years, split staves for another two years and then married and rented a farm of ninety acres. After operating this for some two years he rented a farm of about one hundred and sixty acres of W. B. Ringo in Cass township, and made that his homestead for four years and a half. On March 1, 1896, Mr. Thomas purchased one hundred and five acres in Sugar Ridge township, and two years afterward bought forty acres adjoining it. In October, 1902, he sold that farm and a year after bought one hundred and sixty acres in sections 22 and 27, Perry township, where he resided until June, 1907, when he was appointed by the commissioners of Clay county as superintendent of the County Infirmary or Poor Farm, assuming the functions of his office September 1st of that year. He has long been active as a Republican. After selling his farm in Sugar Ridge township Mr. Thomas rented it and worked the land in connection with his Perry township farm. He had no specialty, but was a general farmer and stock raiser. His experience and training, therefore, have specially adapted him for the responsibilities of his present office.

On August 13, 1890, Mr. Thomas was united in marriage with Miss Cora M. Murbarger, a native of Clay county, Indiana, born on the 4th of July, 1871, daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Latham) Murbarger. Her parents were both natives of Indiana, and they had four children, two of whom died in infancy. Two daughters are living, of whom Mrs. Thomas is the youngest. She herself is the mother of seven children—Herbert, Mary Esther, Edsil H., Ona D., Marie, Norma M. and Goldie Fern Thomas, all living with their parents. Mr. Thomas is a popular and efficient official, and is also widely known among the fraternities, being a member of the Masonic lodge at Riley; of the Clear Creek lodge No. 449, at Corey, and the Knights of Pythias lodge No. 209, at Center Point.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

CLINTON M. THOMPSON, a successful farmer of many years of honorable standing, with a fine landed estate of agricultural productiveness in Washington township, was born in Bowling Green, Clay county, on the 11th of October, 1856. He is a son of Edward R. and Cardelia (Sutliff) Thompson, his father being a native of Jackson county, Indiana, and his mother of Putnam county, same state. In 1865, at the close of the Civil war, when Clinton M. was nine years of age, his parents moved to the farm of ninety acres in section 16, Washington township, where the son now lives and which he has had vastly improved as his own homestead. The elder Mr. Thompson (Captain, as he was generally called) had owned this property for about a year before the war, and it remained the family home until 1882, when Captain Thompson returned to Bowling Green and engaged in general merchandising until 1889, in that year deeding the business to his two sons and retiring to spend his remaining years in comparative quiet and rest.

After Clinton M. Thompson had completed his education, he engaged in work upon the farm until his father removed to Bowling Green, when he assisted him in the store for some three years, about 1885 returning to the home farm. This he rented and operated until 1889, when he purchased the farm of one hundred acres, his brother continuing the business which their father had made over to his two sons. Mr. Thompson has not only conducted the old home farm with profit but has continually added to his land ownership until he now possesses two hundred and ten acres of improved property in section 16, Washington township. Since 1885 he has resided on the original homestead, which has thereby become endeared to him both from family associations and from the fact that most of its improvements are the results of his industry, judgment and taste.

On January 29, 1888, Mr. Thompson was united in marriage with Miss Alice Hostettler, a native of Stockton, Owen county, Indiana, born October 13, 1858, daughter of Jacob P. and Mary J. (Ellis) Hostettler. Her parents, who were Ohioans, came to Owen county with their parents when they were children, and were there married. The father, who was a physician, practiced in Stockton until 1861, when he enlisted in the surgical service of the Union army, and after three years of such experience returned to Indiana and located at Bowling Green. There he purchased a drug store, which, with his professional practice, he conducted until his death, April 1, 1877. His widow is still living, being a resident of Crawfordsville, Indiana, and the mother of four children, of whom Mrs. Thompson is the eldest. Mr. and Mrs. Clinton M. Thompson have become the parents of the following: Glennie O., now the wife of John Blubaugh, of Washington township; Willet W., Aubrey C., Jean O., Vivian C. and Emmons E., all residing with their parents. Mr. Thompson is a faithful member of the M. E. church of Mt. Zion, Patricksburg circuit; is connected with the Bowling Green lodge of Masons, No. 85, and because of his fathers' fine war record is enrolled with the Sons of Veterans, also of Bowling Green, In politics he is a Republican, and although he is highly honored for his record in the ways of industry and peace he has never sought advancement through public channels.

1884 History of Clay County

1884 History of Clay County, p. 413.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES. Bowling Green and Washington Township.

CLINTON M. THOMPSON, merchant, Bowling Green, Ind., was born in Jackson County, Ind., October 12, 1829, and is one of eleven children of John D. and Elizabeth A. (Elsy) Thompson, the father a native of Kentucky, of Scotch-Irish extraction, and the mother a native of Virginia, of German descent. His father died at the age of eighty-nine years, about April, 1881. His mother is still living at Bowling Green, and is eighty-eight years of age. Our subject has been a partner in the mercantile business for eighteen years, the firm selling, at retail, goods to the amount of over \$100,000 per annum part of the time. The firm's stock, at last invoice, amounted to \$22,000; average annual sales, about \$60,000. Mr. Thompson is living with his third wife. His second wife bore him three children, viz., Hallie D. (Talbott), Blanch W. and J. P. R. His present wife has also borne him three children, viz., Earl, Emmett and Ethel. Three children are deceased, but the six named are living. Mr. Thompson was Postmaster at Bowling Green five years; was editor and proprietor of the Clay County Democrat six years; was Recorder of Clay County four years; was Clerk of Clay County four years; was a Deputy in every office in Clay County for many years; was a School Trustee of Bowling Green for two years; was a Town Trustee of same town for three years, and is now School Trustee, serving his third year. He is a Mason -- a member of the Blue Lodge, No. 85, at Bowling Green and Chapter of Royal Arch Masons at Brazil. He is also a member of the Christian Church; his wife, of the Presbyterian. In politics, he is a Democrat. Mr. T.'s education was acquired at the common schools of his county.

1884 History of Clay County, p. 413-414.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES. Bowling Green and Washington Township.

CAPT. EDWARD A. THOMPSON was born in Jackson County, Ind., on September 7, 1831. When but a lad, however, he moved with his parents to Clay County, Ind., and located in Bowling Green. At this time, the county was comparatively a wilderness, and his early life was exposed to all the privations incident to pioneer life. He received his early education from the common schools of the day. At the time he attained his majority, he had mastered the tailor's trade; but that kind of a life was too sedentary to suit his active temperament; and he formed a partnership with Mr. Hopkins in the cabinet-making business, in which he continued until the breaking-out of the war in 1861. In the meantime, he had given considerable attention to instrumental music. In 1861, he enlisted as a member of the band in the Fourteenth Indiana Infantry, and went with the regiment into Virginia. This kind of service, however, did not suit Mr. Thompson, as he thought he could accomplish more toward suppressing the rebellion with a musket than with a brass horn, and in 1862 he enlisted in Company D,

Seventy-first Indiana Infantry, receiving a commission as First Lieutenant. On August 30, 1862, at the battle of Richmond, Ky., he was severely wounded in the shoulder with a piece of shell. He was soon after captured, but was paroled; came home, and remained until he recovered from his wound. Soon after this, the Seventy-first Indiana was organized as the Sixth Indiana Cavalry, and Lieutenant Thompson was promoted Captain of Company M in said organization, and in which capacity he served until the close of the war. He took part in all the cavalry operations with his command in the Department of the Cumberland, and through Kentucky; Tennessee, Alabama and Georgia. He was engaged with Stoneman and Kilpatrick in their celebrated raids, and was seriously injured at the battle of Pulaski, Tenn., in 1864. As a military officer, the Captain was a success, and popular with his superiors, and beloved by his men. In 1855, he was married to Cordelia Sutliff. After the close of the war, he moved on a farm two miles from town, and carried on farming, and dealt in stock. In 1882, he moved with his family into town, and entered into a copartnership with his brother in the dry goods trade. The firm carries a large stock, and is doing an extensive business, beside carrying on their farms. The Captain is no office-seeker, but in politics is an ardent Republican. For many years he has been a consistent member of the M. E. Church. His father, John D. Thompson, died in 1882, being nearly ninety years of age. His mother, nearly eighty-eight years of age, still survives.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

John Travis, native of eastern Pennsylvania, was born May 8, 1821. In 1833, at the age of twelve years, he came with the family to eastern Ohio, locating near Ragersville, Tuscarawas county. The days of his boyhood were spent partly on the farm and partly in the mill, his father having been a miller by trade. Before reaching the age of his majority he began school teaching, in which he soon won an enviable reputation, his services having been sought at many different points. In 1841 and 1842 he taught at Farmersville, Holmes county, and New Bedford, Coshocton county, respectively.

In the month of October, 1843, he married Miss Mary Ann Mosholder, of Tuscarawas county, a native of Somerset county, Pennsylvania. He then engaged in farming, but continued teaching the usual three months' term of winter school for several years, for which he received in payment from \$13 to \$15 per month of twenty-six days.

In October, 1854, he came to Owen county, Indiana, locating on a farm of eighty acres which he had previously bought, near Marion Mills. In 1859 he removed to Lancaster, taking charge of the mercantile house of Black & Co., and the succeeding year engaged in merchandising for himself, where he continued in business until the fall of 1866, when he returned to the farm. A vacancy occurring at this time in the office of school examiner for Owen county, he was appointed by the board of commissioners to fill the position until June, 1868. In the latter part of the year 1869, he engaged in the grocery trade at Ashboro, Clay county, and in the spring of 1870 moved his stock of goods to the farm, having put up a business room for the purpose. In February, 1871, he quit the farm, having become proprietor of the Marion Mills, which he operated for three years.

On the 15th day of June, 1873, after a protracted and painful sickness, his wife died. In the winter of 1873-74 he disposed of his interests in the mill and, his daughters having married, he discontinued house-keeping. In the early spring of 1874 he located at Bowling Green, engaging as a salesman in the house of Black & Thompson.

On the 31st of March, 1875, he married Mrs. Margaret J. Hunt, of Bowling Green, who still survives. From the time of their marriage up to the time of his death he was associated with her in the millinery business. By his first wife he had nine children, six sons and three daughters, seven of whom, five sons and two daughters, survive. Mr. Travis served as justice of the peace in the state of Ohio, and in both Owen and Clay counties, Indiana, his terms of service in this capacity covering a period of many years, and such was the confidence of the public in the soundness of his judgment and his love of justice that but very few appeals were ever taken from his decisions, and it is said that in no instance did the higher courts reverse his findings. During eight consecutive years of his protracted service in this position not one litigant asked for a jury. Though unpretentious in his legal acumen and ability, he was constantly consulted by his neighbors, and even by members of the legal fraternity, and his counsel was always regarded practical, sound and safe.

In him the qualities of firmness and moral courage were happily blended. So strong were his convictions and so sincere his devotions to the right that no proffered reward nor threat of violence could swerve him a line from the path of duty—a true specimen of God's noblest work an honest man. Though not loud in his professions, he exemplified the

virtues of the Christian religion in his daily walk by adopting and practicing, as his cardinal article of faith, the Golden Rule. While yet a young man, before leaving the state of Ohio, he identified himself with the Lutheran church.

In the summer of 1880, by accident, he fell from a cherry-tree, his nervous system suffering a shock from which he never recovered. On the 16th of April, 1882, he was stricken with partial paralysis. Though confined to his room and bed for two months, he bore all his afflictions with heroic fortitude, all the while insisting that he was doing as well as he had any reason for expecting, considering the attending circumstances. At no time during his sickness did he entertain any substantial hope of recovery. When first stricken down he said to his wife that two months' time would determine the issues of life and death with him. The convictions he entertained of his approaching dissolution did not excite nor visibly affect him in the least. At all times when the subject was mentioned by himself, the family or friends, he met it as calmly and philosophically as though it were but an ordinary matter in the affairs of everyday life.

His death took place at his residence, at Bowling Green. Monday. June 19, 1882, at 6:45 p. m, aged sixty-one years, one month and eleven days; the funeral services and burial at Lancaster, Owen county. Wednesday, June 21, were conducted conformably to his own request and direction.

Blanchard, Charles, editor. County of Clay, Indiana: Historical and Biographical. Chicago: F. A. Battey & Co., Publishers. 1884.

pp. 440-441.

WILLIAM TRAVIS was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, April 25, 1838. His father, John S. Travis, and his mother, whose maiden name was Hannah Kline, were born in eastern Pennsylvania, the former being of English, and the latter of German parentage. In 1833, the family emigrated to Ohio. The subject of this biographical sketch is the youngest of seven children, five brothers and two sisters. The first ten years of his boyhood were spent on the farm. From the age of nine to that of fifteen years, he attended the public schools in the winter season, and at times, select schools in the summer. At the age of sixteen he began teaching in the public schools. In his eighteenth year he learned the plasterer's trade, at which he worked in the summer time, up to 1865, teaching in the winter. In the latter part of the year 1857, he married Miss Susan Zimmermann, of Swiss parentage, who was born and raised in the same neighborhood. In October, 1859, he removed to Clay County, Ind., and located at Brazil. Two years later he located at Center Point. At the June term of Commissioners Court, 1864, he was appointed School Examiner for the county for the term of three years. Having been legislated out of office in March 1865, he was re-appointed in June following for three years. In 1865, he organized and established a private school at Center Point which, under his management and instruction, attained a higher degree of efficiency and popularity than any other educational enterprise ever yet instituted and conducted in the history of the county. In 1867, he was announced before the Democratic County Convention a candidate for Auditor, receiving 29 votes, his successful competitor leading him by 8 votes in a total of 66. In 1868, he was before the Democratic Convention a candidate for Clerk of the Clay Circuit Court, receiving 22 out of 66 votes, in a ballot for three candidates. In April, 1869, Mr. Travis entered the field of journalism, publishing the Sunbeam, a monthly paper devoted to education and general information. A year later he bought the Constitution office at Bowling Green and became proprietor and editor of the recognized Democratic paper of the county. At the expiration of the second year, the Sunbeam was discontinued, several hundred dollars having been sacrificed in its publication. In June, 1871, he was again appointed to the office of School Examiner, and was again legislated out of office in March, 1873. On the first of April, 1874, he sold out the printing office and retired from the publishing business. In November, 1874, he removed to Middlebury and engaged in teaching, where he now lives. In 1875 and 1876, he published the Martz Eaglet. In July, 1878, in company with T. J. Gray, he established the National Index at Brazil, which he edited for one year. In February, 1881, he established the Clay City Independent, in the publication of which he has since been engaged. Mr. Travis is the father of eleven children, eight sons and three daughters, nine of whom are living. The oldest, a

daughter, is married and lives at Clay City. The second, who is the oldest son, is a resident of Clifton, Dakota.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

ELIJAH TRESSEL.—Possessing in an eminent degree those qualities that command respect in the business world and win the esteem and respect of the people, Elijah Tressel occupies a position of prominence among his many friends and associates. He has spent a busy and useful life, and is now living somewhat retired from active pursuits, haying a pleasant winter home at No. 118 South Thirteenth street, Terre Haute, but spending his summers on his beautiful farming estate in Cass township, Clay county, the management of which he personally superintends. A son of George Tressel, Jr., he was born in Carroll county, Ohio, January 8, 1847, where his earlier years were spent. His grandfather, George Tressel, Sr., migrated from Pennsylvania to Ohio in pioneer times, and there spent his remaining years.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

George Tressel, Jr., was born in Pennsylvania October 7, 1812, and when a boy moved with the family to Ohio. He there married Sarah Moughiman, who was born in Pennsylvania, a daughter of Henry Moughiman, and began life as a farmer in Carroll county. Disposing of his Ohio land in March, 1864, he came to Clay county, Indiana, bought a tract of partly timbered land, and on the farm which he improved resided until his death, April 24, 1868. His wife, who was born June 3, 1816, in Pennsylvania, died October 18, 1874. They were the parents of twelve children, seven boys and five girls, of whom the following are now living: Adam, of Terre Haute; John, of Bowling Green; Delila, wife of Steward Drake, of whom a brief sketch appears elsewhere in this work; Elijah, the subject of this sketch; Jemima, wife of Monroe Payton, of Iowa; and Leander D., of Owen county, Indiana.

Seventeen years of age when he came with the family to Indiana, Elijah Tressel remained with his parents two years, and then began life as a teacher, having charge of schools in Parke county, Indiana, and in Poland and vicinity, continuing his professional labors for three years. The following five years he was employed as a clerk in the store of his brother Adam in Poland. Then, in company with Henry Kattman, he bought his brother's store, and for fourteen years he and his partner carried on a flourishing business as general merchants. Mr. Tressel then sold out his interest in the store to William F. Kattman, and a year later bought out his former partner, Henry Kattman, and at the end of five years sold his share of the business to his partner, William F. Kattman, since when he has lived retired from mercantile pursuits. An able business man, honest and upright in his dealings, Mr. Tressel accumulated money, and subsequently invested in land, buying two hundred and twenty-one acres in section twenty, Cass township. He also bought for his summer home two hundred and seventy acres of land in section twenty-seven, just north of Poland, in Cass township, purchasing the place from the heirs of his father-in-law, the late Henry Shults, and as a farmer he has met with great success, finding pleasure as well as profit in his agricultural work.

On January 26, 1873, Mr. Tressel married Mary E. Shults. She was born in Cass township December 23, 1853, a daughter of Henry and Margaret (McKeeman) Shults. Her father was born in Germany, and her mother at Knightstown, Indiana, near Richmond. Mrs. Tressel died May 10, 1906, and her body was laid to rest in the Poland Cemetery. Seven children were born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Tressel, namely: Archie R., born July 26, 1874, is a clerk at Poland, Indiana; Minnie E., born July 30, 1876, is the wife of B. F. Latting, of New York state; Myrtle A., born October 25, 1879, has kept house for her father since the death of her mother; Grace E., born September 1, 1885, died March 10, 1891; H. Arthur, born July 19, 1887, is attending a medical college in Chicago; Harry S., born August 3, 1892; and Robert P., born February 28, 1896. Politically Mr. Tressel is a staunch Democrat, and uniformly casts his vote in favor of that party. Fraternally he is a member of Bowling Green Lodge, No. 85, A. F. & A. M., and of Poland Lodge, No. 364, K. of P. Religiously he is a Presbyterian. and since 1873 has been an elder in the church, being now associated in that capacity with the Central Presbyterian church in Terre Haute.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

JOHN TRIPLETT.—A self-made man in every sense implied by the term, winning success in life by persevering industry, keen foresight and excellent management, John Triplett is closely identified with the agricultural interests of Clay county, Owing and occupying a well improved farm in Van Buren township. A son of French Lewis Triplett, he was born October 3, 1832, at Virginia Ridge, near Roseville, Muskingum county, Ohio. His grandfather, Thomas Triplett, was born near Hatchers Mill, Loudoun county, Virginia, being, according to tradition, the descendant of one of two brothers, John and Thomas Triplett, French Huguenots who came to America in colonial days to escape religious persecution. He had two sisters, Mary Ann and Sarah, and two brothers, Greenbury and Frederick, who emigrated to Kentucky, becoming pioneers of Breckenridge county, where many of their descendants are still living. The grandfather, a life-long farmer in his native county, married Phebe Luncford, a daughter of Rolla Luncford, also a life-long resident of Loudoun county. She survived her husband many years, and came to Indiana to spend the closing days of her life, dying at the home of her son, near Brazil, in at the advanced age of ninety years. She reared eleven children, namely: Burr, Sabra, Nancy, Mahala, Elizabeth, Sanford, Delilah, French L., Maria, Leroy and Jane.

French Lewis Triplett, born December 12, 1806, was a young boy when his father died, and but sixteen years old when his mother migrated with her family to Ohio, making the removal with teams, a mode of travel necessarily slow and at times dangerous, and settled in Muskingum county. Selecting farming as his life occupation, he subsequently bought his father-in-law's homestead of two hundred acres located in what is now Clay township, residing there until 1856. Selling out in that year, he came to Clay county, Indiana, and purchased a partly improved farm situated two miles from Brazil, in Van Buren township. After living there a while he sold his land to a coal company and bought a farm in Dick Johnson township. A few years later he sold that farm and moved to Brazil, where he spent the remainder of his life, passing away March 2, 1887, in the eighty-first year of his age. He married Sarah Baird, who was born in Adams county, Pennsylvania, a daughter of John Baird, who was born in the same state, of German stock. Mr. Baird moved with his family to Ohio, locating in Muskingum county as a pioneer. Securing a tract of timbered land at the head of Brush Creek, he with the assistance of his sons cleared a farm, and while still owning that he bought another ranch near Zanesville, on which he resided a number of years. Having in the meantime acquired a competency, he sold that land and moved to the city of Zanesville, where he lived retired from active business cares until his death, at the age of seventy-six years. His wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Baumgartner, was born in Pennsylvania, of German ancestors, and died at a good old age in Zanesville. Mrs. Sarah (Baird) Triplett died on the home farm in Dick Johnson township when sixty-four years old. She bore her husband eleven children, as follows: John, the special subject of this sketch; Thomas; Delilah; Martha; Greenbury; Burr; Bushrod; Lucinda; Elizabeth; William; and Minerva A. Three of the sons, Thomas, Burr, and Bushrod, served as soldiers in the Civil war.

Attending the subscription schools of early days, at a time when from sixty to seventy-two days, according to the money raised, consti-

tuted a school year, John Triplett obtained a practical common school education. Subsequently assisting his father in clearing and improving the land, he remained at home until after attaining his majority. In June, 1854, beginning life on his own account, he started on a westward trip, going by rail first to Chicago and then to Rock Island, where he took a Mississippi steamer to Burlington, Iowa. Going then by rail ten miles, which was as far as the railroads had been extended west of the Mississippi, he took a stage at the railway terminus and proceeded to Jefferson City, Missouri, where he found work in the harvest fields. Going from there to Oskaloosa, he worked there for a time, and then went to Wayne county, Iowa, where he entered a quarter section of government land. Locating then in Davis county, Iowa, he engaged in teaming until March, 1855, when he went on foot to Keokuk, where he embarked as a deck passenger on a steamer for St. Louis. There he took cabin passage on a Pittsburg boat, and returned to Ohio to resume farm work. In the ensuing fall Mr. Triplett rented a piece of land, bought a pair of oxen, and put in a crop of wheat, which he harvested the following year. On the 21st of September, 1856, Mr. Triplett married, and on the 1st of October started with his bride for Iowa, while en route stopping in Clay county, this state, to visit his parents. Continuing his journey westward, he located in Davis county, Iowa, where he farmed on rented land until September, 1858, when on account of the ill health of his wife he sold his crops and stock and returned to his old home, near Roseville, Ohio.

Renting land there, Mr. Triplett began farming, but the late frosts so injured his crops that he became discouraged, and in June of that year again started west, being at that time a hundred and forty-four dollars in debt. Coming across the country with his wife and child, he settled near Brazil, this county, renting a small place just west of the village, and engaged in farming and hauling coal, stone, shingles and lumber, the shingles being mostly rived by hand. He received a dollar and a half a day for himself and team, and in a year's time he had paid his indebtedness and was square with the world. Borrowing money, then, Mr. Triplett bought eighty acres of land in Van Buren township. A small portion of this was cleared, and in the hewn log house, with its earth and stick chimney, he lived a few years, in the meantime engaging in the coal business, hauling coal from his own land to Brazil, Donaldsonville and Harmony.

On Christmas day, 1865, Mr. Triplett bought one hundred and sixty acres of land adjoining Harmony on the north and platted a part of it as an addition to the town. A small part of the land had been cleared, and it was further improved by a two-story hewn log house and small stable which the former proprietor had erected. Taking possession of the place in March, 1866, he set to work in earnest to clear the remainder of the timber from the land, and for eight years was there prosperously employed in general farming and stock raising and dealing. Leasing the property in 1874 to the Watson Coal Company, he still resided on the place until February 13, 1880, although during the time he sold the land, retaining, however, his interest in the coal beds. In February, 1880, having sold a part of his farming implements and stock, he bought two hundred and ten acres of land adjoining the town of Humboldt, Richardson county, Nebraska, and there engaged in tilling the soil. In the following June, Mr. Triplett rented that land and moved to Savannah, Missouri, where he rented a home. In October of that year he bought a farm of ninety acres lying one mile from the village, moved on to it, harvested the fruit, and lived there until the next spring. Selling then at an

advance, he rented a place of twenty acres, lived on it till June, then

purchased a tract of twenty-five acres adjoining Savannah, on which he resided a year. During the time he bought three hundred and seventy acres of land two and one-half miles from Savannah, and resided there two years. Selling out then at a profit, he spent a short time in Savannah, from there going to Springfield, Missouri. Buying then one hundred and sixty acres of land in Taney county, Missouri, he embarked in sheep raising, and also dealt in real estate in Springfield. Two years later he sold the sheep ranch, returned to Savannah, invested in suburban property, and remained there about a year. Returning with his family to Clay county, Mr. Triplett lived for seven years in Brazil, during which time he operated coal mines in Vigo county. In April, 1893, having purchased two hundred acres of bottom land on Eel river, four and one-half miles northwest of Clay City, he for two years lived in the vicinity of that city. In April, 1895, Mr. Triplett bought the place which he now owns and occupies, it being advantageously located on the National Road between Harmony and Brazil. He has made substantial improvements, having rebuilt and added to the house and set out fruit, shade and ornamental trees, greatly enhancing the value of the estate.

On September 21, 1856, Mr. Triplett married Hester A. Underwood, who was born November 28, 1838, near Roseville, Muskingum county, Ohio, a daughter of William Brinkley and Elizabeth (Dorr) Underwood. Mrs. Triplett passed to the higher life on April 12, 1904. Ten children were born of their union, six of whom are now living, namely: Laura A., born April 11, 1858; William B., February 19, 1860; French L., November 21, 1863; Sadie, April 22, 1867; Luella, March 23, 1869; and Minnie, March 13, 1871. Warren, born November 14, 1865, died January 26, 1880; George W., born March 17, 1873, died October 22, 1894; and Alvin, born June 22, 1877, died November 19, 1900. Fraternally Mr. Triplett is a member of Clay Lodge, No. 368, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Politically he is active in Republican ranks and served as the first Republican trustee of Van Buren township.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

ABRAM W. TURNER, who has been closely identified with the interests of Brazil and surrounding country for many years, was born in Wayne county, Indiana, December 15, 1835, son of Jephtha and Martha (Gaar) Turner. Jephtha Turner, the father, was the first white child born in Wayne county. He was born in the neighborhood in which he died, October 29, 1806, and was at the date of his death aged seventy-eight years, seven months and fifteen days. He lived in the place of his birth all of his life, and had much to do with the developing of the county. January 14, 1830, he was married to Martha Gaar, by James P. Burgess, a justice of the peace. To them were born six sons and three daughters, as follows: Larkin G.; Levi P.; Abram W.; Sarah Jane, wife of John Endsley; Eliza Ann; M. V. B.; John Milton; whose sketch follows this; Martha Ellen, who died aged twenty-eight years; Jesse D. Jephtha Turner's parents were John and Mary (Holman) Turner. John Turner came from Kentucky at a very early day and was a pioneer in Wayne county; was the first sheriff and a progressive farmer all his life. Of Jephtha Turner it may be added that he was an ideal citizen. He was a man of intelligence and became a leader in the society of his neighborhood. He possessed a rare and excellent judgment and entered with zeal in whatever he undertook to accomplish in politics he was of the strict Jeffersonian Democratic stripe. About ten years prior to his death, he united with the Baptist church, in which he became an active member. He was cousin of Hon. William S. Holman. Martha (Gaar) Turner, the mother, was a native of Wayne county, Indiana, born September 25, 1810, and died September 15, 1890.

Abram W. Turner, of this notice, spent his youthful days on his father's farm and attended school winters, until he was twenty-four years of age. In 1860 he went overland to Denver, Colorado, by means of ox teams, leaving Nebraska City, Nebraska, April 26, 1860, and arrived at Denver June of that year. He was a miner and prospector until the autumn of 1864, in both Colorado and Montana. He made his return trip, a distance of fourteen hundred miles, with mule teams. In the spring of 1867 he located in Brazil, Indiana, in the drug business, which he conducted in a successful manner until 1870, when he engaged in the woolen mill business, continuing until 1884, when he was elected clerk of the Clay county circuit court, which position he held four years; then acted as deputy clerk for about four years more. He next engaged in the dry goods trade and is at present associated with Wehrle & Sowar Company.

Like many another of the up-to-date men of his times, Mr. Turner is connected with civic societies, in which he has been deeply interested for many years. He was made a Mason in July, 1866, in Cornelius Lodge, No. 262, of Abingdon, Wayne county, Indiana, and now belongs to Centennial Lodge, No. 541, A. F. and A. M.; Brazil Chapter, No. 59, Royal Arch Masons; Brazil Council, No. 40, R. & S. M.; Brazil Commandery, No. 47, Knights Templar. He is also a member of Brazil Lodge, No. 30, Knights of Pythias, as well as holding membership with the Knights of Honor fraternity. Politically, he supports the Democratic ticket and has served as councilman in Brazil. He was united in marriage to Catherine Wehrle, July 19, 1876. Mrs. Turner was born in Newark, Ohio, in 1853, the daughter of Sebastian and Annie (Woolinsnider) Wehrle. (See sketch of Frank J. Wehrle for family history.) The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Turner are as follows: Martha, wife of Dr. E. G. Glasgo, of Brazil Indiana; Irene, wife of John H. Holliday, who now lives at

Washington, District of Columbia. where he is secretary to his father,
Hon. F. S. Holliday; Lester, who married Sadie Murphy; Loretta;
Wallace Clyde; Hubert.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

JOHN MILTON TURNER, well known in the vicinity of Brazil as a business man, county official and a most excellent citizen, was born in Wayne county, Indiana, June 22, 1847. son of Jephtha and Martha (Gaar) Turner. On the father's side Mr. Turner is from French extraction, while on the maternal side he traces his lineage back to John and Elizabeth Gar, of German ancestry. The name is now spelled Gaar. John Car was born in Bavaria, November 17, 1657, and died in that country, May 22, 1738. John and Elizabeth Gar were the parents of four children.

Jephtha Turner, father, was born in Wayne County, Indiana, October 29, 1806, and died April 16, 1885. On January 14, 1830. he married Miss Martha Gaar, born in Wayne county, September 25, 1810, and died September 15, 1890. They were the parents of the following children: Larkin C. : Levi P.: Abram W.; Sarah Jane. wife of John Endsley; Eliza Ann; M. V. B.; John Milton; Martha Ellen, who died aged twenty-eight years of age; Jesse D. Jephtha Turner, the father, was reared in Wayne county, Indiana, and followed farm life. He was a member of the Baptist church and in politics a Democrat. His parents were John and Mary (Holman) Turner, the former being a native of Kentucky who came to Indiana at a very early day and became a pioneer in that state. He was the first sheriff of Wayne county and spent his life on the farm.

John M. Turner remained with his parents until twenty-two years of age, then went to Brazil as the manager of a woolen mill, which he followed three years, then engaged in merchandising business with William II. Shannon. In 1879 he was made deputy county treasurer under Leason B. Pruner, and in 1881 he was appointed deputy county auditor under James T. Casteel, where he continued between five and six years, after which he embarked in the hardware business. In 1900 he engaged in the insurance and real estate business which he still conducts. Being a prudent, painstaking man, he does thoroughly whatever he undertakes. He has for years been active in civic society work. He became a member of Brazil Lodge, No. 264, A. F. and A. M., and was one of the organizers and a charter member of Centennial Lodge. No. 541, A. 12. and A. M. He is also member of Lodge No. 30 of the Knights Pythias of order, which he joined in 1875, and has held all the offices in the same. He belongs to Ben Hur Court, No. 8, and is connected with the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, Brazil Lodge, No. 762. Politically, Mr. Turner is a supporter of the Democratic party. He was united in marriage, November 14, 1877, to Anna F. Dickson, born in Illinois, July 14, 1862. The children born of this union are: Clarence M., who married Mary McGurdy; Irma A. ; Sarah H., wife of H. S. Rector; Beulah E.; Gaar N.; Martha Mae; Paul Dudley.

Concerning Mrs. Turner's people it may be said that she is the daughter of John and Ruth Dickson. Her father located in Bowling Green in 1863, but in 1866 moved to Brazil. He was married in 1840 and resided in Indiana, except eight years in Illinois. Mrs. Dickson died May 28, 1882, of heart disease, aged fifty-one years. She was a native of Ohio. but moved with the family to Indiana in 1834. She was the mother of eight children, five of whom survived her.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. I,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

James M. Townsend, son of James Townsend, native of Kentucky, born at Morganfield, February 22, 1820; came with his parents to Putnamville, Indiana, in 1828, when but eight years of age, the family coming to Clay county and locating at the National Road crossing of Croy's Creek, on what has long been known as the McKinley place, at some time prior to 1840, where they kept a tavern. Here the father died, November 4, 1852, aged 66 years. In 1838, the subject of this sketch graduated from the State University, Bloomington, receiving the degree of Bachelor of Arts and Doctor of Medicine. At some time after returning home from the University he engaged in merchandizing in partnership with his brother-in-law, Dr. John H. Hawkins, at Williamstown. Here, on the 7th day of November, 1854, he married Miss Julia Somers. Having retired from merchandising in 1858, he began teaching in the public schools of the county, which he continued to do until 1876, a period of eighteen years, including one or more terms in the old county seminary, at Bowling Green. He was at one time the Posey township librarian. Being proficient in music, while residing at Staunton he organized and taught a number of classes in vocal music, then called "singing schools." He also taught and led a band at Newburg. As a teacher he was ever faithful in his attendance at the county institutes and associations, always taking with him his melodeon, by the use of which he contributed much to the pleasure, harmony and success of these teachers' meetings. He was a close student and ripe scholar. As an etymologist and linguist he had no equal in the county. 'In November, 1881, he moved to California, having been preceded thither by his sons, James R. and Alfred I. Townsend, locating at Lugonia (now Redlands) San Bernardino county. In recognition of his proficiency in language and fine sense of discrimination in the choice of words, the Funk and Wagnalls Company of New York, engaged his services in the preparation of the copy for their "Standard" Dictionary of the English language. His part of the work was the selection of sentences illustrating and enforcing the use of words, in the performance of which he did a large amount of reading. In his compositions and correspondence he was never known to misspell a word. In passing examination for license to teach, he invariably made a hundred per cent in all the branches. By way of compliment and distinction, well earned, he was known as "The Walking Dictionary." As a reminiscence in his experience of nearly half a century ago, in illustration of his ability to spell as well as of the occasional outcropping of the vein of humor in his make-up, it may be related that he made a trip to Terre Haute, on the occasion of a teachers' meeting, purposely to take a hand in an advertised prize spelling contest. The words were orally "given out," but written by the contestants, their papers then passed into the hands of the committee for inspection and credits. The committee reported that James M. Townsend had spelled correctly every word in the list, announcing that they had awarded him the prize—Webster's Unabridged Dictionary. James M. Townsend was at that time personally unknown to the teachers of Terre Haute and Vigo county, who, to identify and become acquainted with the man who had "turned them down," made calls for him. Though timid and embarrassed, he took the stand and spoke briefly and substantially as follows: "Ladies and Gentlemen: I am an unsophisticated country teacher from the wilds of Clay county. I came here fully believing that I would win the prize in this

contest. You may feel a good deal disappointed and more than a little surprised. Doubtless, you all want to know why it is that I spell so well, and I am disposed to gratify you. The secret of it is that I once slept with Webster on a bridge (unabridged) and acquired the habit by contagion."

The subject of this sketch died at Los Angeles, California, January 1, 1897, aged 76 years, 10 months and 9 days, survived by his wife and four children—three sons and a daughter—natives of Clay county.

James R. Townsend was born at Staunton, September 21, 1858, where he attended the public schools in his boyhood, then read law, and in the year 1880, at the age of twenty-two years, was admitted to the practice at Albia, Monroe county, Iowa, and at Brazil, Indiana. In 1882 he opened an office at Los Angeles, California, and at once turned his attention to the soliciting of patents in the United States and foreign patent offices. For a number of years he was the only patent solicitor in his adopted city, in the practice of which he continued and is still engaged. The business which he has built up in this branch of the practice now requires an office force of three draftsmen, four stenographers and two clerks, occupying a suite of four rooms, 430 Bradbury Block. In 1883 the subject of this sketch was placed on the Prohibition ticket for member of the City Council and several years later on the same ticket for County Clerk, but as his party was in the minority he was not elected to either position. He has from time to time written poetry which has been sought by the press. Being now identified politically with the Socialist party, several cleverly written poems from his pen along this line have recently appeared in the Appeal to Reason.

On the 21st day of February, 1906, he married M. Beulah Puchette, of Los Angeles. He has repeatedly visited at Staunton since going to California, his practice making occasional trips necessary to the patent office, at Washington.

Alfred I. Townsend and Francis M. Townsend, sons of James M. and Julia (Somers) Townsend were also patent attorneys at Los Angeles. the latter at this time a member of the firm of Townsend, Lyon & Hackley. Both married after going to the Pacific Coast. Alfred I. Townsend's wife was Miss Martha E. Bressler, a native Clay Countian, who accompanied Miss Adeline Somers to California in 1881. Alfred I. Townsend attained considerable popularity as a writer of poetry, which was published in the Los Angeles papers and several magazines from 1891 until the time of his accidental death, the day after Thanksgiving, 1898, when he fell from a windmill tower, crushing his head, survived by his wife and two daughters.

To Francis M. Townsend and wife have been born a son and two daughters.

Sarah C. Townsend, the sister, now the wife of Myron Gee, Los Angeles, has been closely identified with and in the practice of Christian Science for more than ten years past. She organized the first church of this cult at Pasadena, California.

Mention having been made of the wife of Dr. John H. Hawkins as the sister of James M. Townsend, another sister was Margaret Eaglesfield, wife of William Eaglesfield, and mother of the wife of Major Roswell S. Hill, of Brazil.

Of the Somers family, James R. Townsend says: "My mother, daughter of Robert and Sarah (Rockwell) Somers, is a native of New England, born July 1, 1825, at Barnett, Vermont, on the Connecticut river, the family coming to Clay county, Indiana, in 1838, locating near

Williamstown, within a half mile of what was afterward known as Highland, now Staunton. She is now past 83 years of age, but active and in full possession of all her faculties, and still assists in my office, as she has done for many years. She spends her time just as she desires to do. She with two brothers and one sister, are the four survivors of the five children.

Isaac Somers, the youngest brother, died at Staunton in 1879. He and Joseph Somers were associated in the coal business there for many years. William Francis Somers has been in California since 1850, residing now on his ranch at Moneta. Adeline, who is also in California, has never married."

Biography from History of Clay Co., IN, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909</CENTER>

DR. PATRICK H. VEACH, one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Staunton, has attained prominence in the professional circles of Clay county. His professional career was begun as a school teacher, having previously passed from the district schools to the Central Normal, of which he is a graduate, and beginning in 1880 he taught in the district schools of Clay county for eight years. In 1886 he entered the drug business in Staunton, and after three years spent as a druggist he entered as a student the Medical College of Indiana and graduated with its class of 1891. Since that time he has practiced with ever increasing success in this city, enjoying a large and remunerative patronage. He was for a time a member of the U. S. pension examining board at Brazil, is a member of the State Medical Associations and in 1891 he was appointed the trustee of Posey township for a term of three years.

Dr. Veach was born in Jackson township, Clay county, Indiana, January 2, 1862, a son of Adam C. Veach, who was born in Harrison county, Kentucky, May 22, 1824. He was reared and educated there, and was later married there to one of the county's native daughters, Helen Swinford, who was born November 22, 1822, and they were of Scotch and German descent. They became the parents of six children, four sons and two daughters. In about 1855 Adam C. Veach moved to Indianapolis, Indiana, and embarked in the saw milling business, while later, in 1860, he came with his family to Clay county, and located on forty acres of land which he purchased near Staunton in Posey township, continuing as a farmer there until his death at the age of sixty-five years. From the Whigs of the early days he transferred his political allegiance to the Democratic party and became prominent in the public life of his community. From 1862 to 1864 he served his district in the legislature, and during twelve years he was a trustee of Posey township.

On the 30th of December, 1891, Dr. Veach was married to Miss Mattie N. Wardlaw, and they have three children, all born in Staunton, namely: Lester W., born February 8, 1893; Albert C., June 15, 1894; and Katherine E., October 13, 1903. Dr. Veach has membership relations with the Masons, the Odd Fellows, the Red Men and the Knights of Pythias, and his political views are in harmony with the principles of the Democratic party. He owns considerable real estate in Staunton, and is numbered among the city's leading business as well as professional men.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. I,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

Adam C. Veach, a native of Kentucky, born in Harrison county, May 28, 1824, married Miss Helen Swinford, August 11, 1845. He moved to Indiana in the fall of 1852, locating at Augusta, Marion county, where he resided four years, then went to Indianapolis, where he engaged in the lumber business. In 1858 he came to Clay county, locating in Posey township and engaging in farming. In 1859 he was elected township trustee, and re-elected in April, 1860. He was nominated by the Democratic party in 1862 for representative and elected, serving at the session of 1863; renominated and re-elected in 1864. In the spring of 1865 he was again elected trustee, and re-elected in 1866, then, after an interval of four years, was again elected, serving the people of Posey township in this capacity about eight years. Mr. Veach was an ardent friend and stanch supporter of our public school system, having taken an active part in the revision of the school law at the session of the general assembly in 1865. While trustee he built a number of new school houses, including the two-story brick house at Staunton, the first of its kind in the county. Much credit is due to his memory for his interest and influence in the advancement of the cause of popular education. Mr. and Mrs. Veach were both well informed, interesting and entertaining conversationalists. Both were members of the Christian church. To them were born six children—Oscar, Lucius, Victoria, Charles, Patrick H., and Maggie. Mr. Veach died December 4, 1889, aged sixty-five years, six months and six days, and was survived by his wife, who is now nearly eighty-six years of age.

1884 History of Clay County, p. 442.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES. Clay City and Harrison Township

F. C. WATTS, proprietor of a livery, feed and sale stable, Clay City, was born October 5, 1860, in Clay County, Ind., and was the youngest of five children born to Fielden C. and Martha (Trail) Watts, the former a native of Kentucky, the latter of Indiana, and of English descent. His father was engaged in mercantile pursuits in Poland, Ind., where F. C. spent his boyhood, attending school until fifteen years of age. He then traveled in the West about eighteen months. After his return home he was employed in a furniture store inu Brazil, Ind., as delivery clerk, and afterward salesman, for one year. He then engaged in selling buggies in Lockport, Ind., which business he followed until the fall of 1880, when he established his present business in Clay City, and is prospering. His marriage occurred October 5, 1882, to Temperance Jones. He is an enthusiastic Republican, and an active worker in the party, and an enterprising young business man.

1884 History of Clay County, p. 442.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES. Clay City and Harrison Township

JILES J. WATTS, keeper of a first-class livery, feed and sale stable of Clay City, Ind., was born May 14, 1858, in Owen County, Ind., and was the ninth child born to William and Hortense (Fisher) Watts, both natives of Kentucky, and of English lineage. Jiles was reared upon a farm, attended school winters, thus acquiring a good common school education. He remained at home until twenty-two years of age, but began business for himself at the age of nineteen, opening a livery stable in the fall of 1875. He has a large and rapidly increasing business. He was married to Alice P. Foreman, October 1, 1882. Mr. Watts is an active member of the Improved Order of Red Men. He is a staunch Democrat, having given his support to that party since he became a voter. He has been a resident of Clay County since 1871, and is among its prominent young business men.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

A representative of one of the earlier families to settle in Clay county and a farmer of wide experience and much ability, Anderson Webster, of Dick Johnson township, is surely entitled to honorable mention in a work of this kind, the lives of himself and his more immediate ancestors being closely associated with the development and growth of this part of Indiana. Tradition tells us that two brothers named Webster came to America a century or more before the Revolution and that one of them, who settled in New England, numbered among his descendants Noah Webster, the lexicographer, John, the scientist, and Daniel, the statesman. The other brother located in Virginia, where succeeding generations occupied the homestead which he improved.

Anderson Webster was born November 18, 1852, in Dick Johnson township, a son of Joshua Webster. His grandfather, Charles Webster, was, doubtless, born in Franklin county, Virginia. About 1828, with two of his brothers, Daniel and Reuben, he migrated to Indiana and located first in Parke county, later settling in Clay county, from the unbroken wilderness clearing the homestead on which he spent his remaining days.

Born in Franklin county, Virginia, about 1812, Joshua Webster was sixteen or more years of age when he came with his parents to Clay county. The country at that time was in its primeval wildness, and the land was mostly owned by the government. Entering a tract in section fifteen, Dick Johnson township, he soon built the log house in which the birth of his son Anderson occurred. It was rude of construction, having one door and one window. Game of all kinds abounded, wild turkeys then being as plentiful as barnyard fowls are now. There were then no convenient markets, the people living on wild game and the productions of the land, and the energetic women of the household carded, spun and wove and made all of the clothing worn by the members thereof. Little do the people of these later generations realize the trials and hardships endured, the great ambition required, and the physical endurance demanded to secure the homes established by the brave pioneers for themselves and their descendants. How well they succeeded in their efforts the broad expanse of cultivated fields and the large and productive orchards now occupying the place formerly covered by a dense forest, the commodious and even elegant residences that have superseded the log cabin, and the long trains of palace cars that are used for transportation in place of the wagon drawn by oxen or horses, are a strong testimony. In this wonderful transformation Joshua Webster took an active part, and on the farm which he cleared and improved lived until his death, in June, 1880, at the age of sixty-eight years. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Kerr, was born in Kentucky, a daughter of James Kerr.

In 1817, just after Indiana had been admitted to statehood, James Kerr made a trip to Parke county, and in Raccoon township entered a tract of government land. Returning to Kentucky, he remained there four years. In 1821 he brought his family to Indiana, assumed possession of the land he had previously taken up and became one of the original settlers of Parke county. A man of sterling integrity and ability, he soon became influential and prominent in public affairs, and served as a representative to the state legislature. Clearing and improving a good homestead, he resided in Raccoon township until his death, at the venerable age of eighty-five years. During the time he witnessed many wonderful transformations in the face of the country roundabout, and in its growth and development was an important factor.

Mrs. Mary (Kerr) Webster survived her husband, and with the assistance of her sons continued the improvements already inaugurated on the home farm, among other things erecting a substantial frame house in place of the primitive log cabin. She died in 1887, aged sixty-eight years. She bore her husband ten children, of whom one, Susan, died in childhood, and nine grew to years of maturity, namely: Mary E.; John K.; Sarah; James E.; Arminda; Anderson; Fernando; and George M. and Joanna, twins. George M., who was well educated and for a number of years was engaged in teaching, died at the age of forty-eight years, in August, 1907. This death was the first among his family of brothers and sisters since that of little Susan, sixty-five years before.

Anderson Webster attended school in his youthful days, and assisted in the work of the farm from his boyhood. He was endowed by nature with much mechanical ability, and for four years worked at the carpenter's trade. Ingenious and inventive, he put his talents to good use, making many articles of value in the household, and has now in his home a handsome bookcase which gives evidence of his skill. In it there are forty different kinds of wood, thirty-nine of which were grown in Clay county. With the exception of the four years spent in carpentering, Mr. Webster has devoted his time and energies to the care of his farm, which is located in Dick Johnson township, and in his free and independent occupation has met with well-merited success.

At the age of twenty-two years he married Arminda McMillen, who was born in Dick Johnson township, of thrifty Scotch ancestry, being a daughter of Michael and Sarah McMillen, early settlers of Clay county. Mr. and Mrs. Webster have one daughter, Nellie. They have had four children, namely: Clarence C., who died aged three years; Pearley E., who died aged fifteen months; Minnie Ethel, who married Franklin Bell and died leaving one child, Carl; and Nellie, mentioned above: In their religious beliefs, Mr. and Mrs. Webster are liberal, and Mrs. Webster is an active member of the Universalist church. In politics Mr. Webster is a Republican.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

Prominent among the native-born citizens of Dick Johnson township is William Francis Webster, who is the worthy representative of a family that for four-score years has been actively identified with the agricultural prosperity and progress of Clay county, his grandfather, Daniel Webster, having located in this part of the state in 1829. Mr. Webster was born in this township January 4, 1863, a son of John Lewis Webster, of colonial ancestry. Tradition tells us that two brothers named Webster came to America a century or more before the Revolution, and that one of them, who settled in New England, numbered among his descendants Noah Webster, the lexicographer; John, the scientist; and Daniel, the statesman. The other brother located in Virginia, where succeeding generations occupied the homestead which he improved.

In 1829 Daniel Webster came from Virginia to Indiana, entered government land in Dick Johnson township, and on the farm which he reclaimed from the wilderness he and his wife, whose maiden name was Rhoda Arthur, spent the remainder of their lives.

A native of Virginia, John Lewis Webster was born October 9, 1823, in Franklin county. At the age of six years he came with the family to Dick Johnson township, and was here brought up. He remained beneath the parental roof-tree until attaining his majority, assisting his father in the pioneer labor of clearing and improving a homestead. For a number of years after he was engaged in the manufacture of shingles, subsequently, in 1867, going to Brazil, where for six years he was engaged in the lumber business. Going then to Indianapolis, he was there a real estate dealer and agent until 1879. Returning to Dick Johnson township, he then bought land in section twelve, and after living there a few seasons sold and bought the farm now owned, and occupied by William F. Webster, his son. Here he carried on general farming until his death, July 6, 1897. He married first Fanny Brenton, who bore him ten children. His second wife, the mother of the subject of this brief sketch, was before marriage Martha Malissa Deupree. She was born April 17, 1834, in Johnson county, Indiana, near Franklin, and as a young woman taught school a few terms. Her ancestors for a number of generations resided in Virginia, where her father, Joseph W. Deupree, was born December 22, 1809; her grandfather, Thomas Deupree, June 12, 1786; and her great-grandfather, William Deupree, July 7, 1759. The latter, who was of French Huguenot descent, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war and a life-long resident of his native state, dying there June 16, 1854. His wife, whose maiden name was Amy Pettes, was born in August, 1761, in Virginia. Thomas Deupree, also a life-long resident of Virginia, died June 15, 1825. He married Martha Hatchitt, who was born March 15, 1790, and who survived him, after his death coming to Indiana to live with her children and dying in Johnson county December 20, 1865. Joseph W. Deupree settled in Johnson county, Indiana, in 1833, and from the heavily timbered tract of land which he bought hewed the farm on which he resided several years. Going then to Davis county, Iowa, he carried on farming until ready to retire from active pursuits, when he settled in Bloomfield, that county, where his death occurred January 21, 1878. He first married Sally Ann Nichel, who was born September 29, 1816, and died August 26, 1834, when her daughter Martha Malissa was an infant. He married second Mary J. McAlpine, by whom he had seven children. The wife of John Lewis Webster died February 18, 1895.

Having completed his early studies in the district schools of Brazil

William F. Webster attended the public schools of Indianapolis for awhile. He was but sixteen years old when his parents returned to Dick Johnson township, and he has been a resident of the township since that time and of the place he now owns since 1889. He has in his possession the parchment deed of his farm given by the government to Simon Archer, the original owner, and also has Mr. Archer's tax receipt, bearing the date 1828, Samuel Rigley, collector. As an agriculturist, Mr. Webster has met with excellent success, and has made improvements of much value. Very soon after moving on to the farm he erected a good frame house, which in 1904 he remodeled, putting in all modern equipments.

On August 4, 1887, Mr. Webster married Frances Alice Hardesty, who was born in this township, a daughter of William Hardesty. Born in Kentucky, William Hardesty came when a young man to Indiana, and for awhile lived in Putnam county. Subsequently taking up his residence in Dick Johnson township, he was here employed in tilling the soil until his death, in 1884. He married Charlotte Akers, whose father, Luke Akers, left his native place, Franklin county, Virginia, in 1828, and with his wife and two children came across the country with a pair of horses and a wagon to Indiana. Taking up land in Dick Johnson township, on section fifteen, he built from round logs a cabin in which the family lived for some time. Later he built a double house of hewed logs, and to this he subsequently put on a frame addition, and in it spent his remaining days, dying February 7, 1858, aged fifty-seven years. He married Jane Webster, a daughter of Daniel and Rhoda (Arthur) Webster, and she survived him, passing away March 16, 1872, aged seventy years. Mrs. Charlotte (Akers) Hardesty survived her husband many years, dying March 27, 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Webster are the parents of three children, namely: Edwin Arthur, born October 4, 1896; Marcus Harold, born September 3, 1895; and Virgil Milton, born December 27, 1899. In May, 1908, Mr. Webster received the Prohibition nomination for sheriff of Clay county.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

FRANK J. WEHRLE, of the well known and extensive dry goods and boot and shoe business of Brazil, Indiana, is a native of Newark, Ohio, where he was born September 3, 1849, son of Sebastian and Annie (Wool-insnider) Wehrle. The parents were both born in Germany and married in Newark, Ohio. Sebastian Wehrle came to this country in 1832 and settled in the northern part of Ohio. By trade he was a shoemaker. He spent the latter years of his life in Ohio, except a few years which he spent in Brazil, Indiana, being in business with his two sons—Frank J. and George S. They were manufacturers of boots and shoes. He retired from business in 1873 and died the next year. He was a member of the Roman Catholic church and in politics a Democrat. His wife died in Brazil, Indiana, in 1890, aged seventy-nine years, while he died aged sixty-four years. They were the parents of eleven children, five of whom still survive: Elizabeth, widow of Joseph H. W. Sowar; George; Frank J. ; Henry; Catherine, wife of Abram W. Turner.

Frank J. Wehrle learned the boot and shoe trade with his father as an instructor. They came to Brazil in 1870 and continued in the manufacturing business until 1873-4, when Frank J. opened a store on his own account, doing a retail business. In 1900 he took for partner Joseph S. C. Sowar, operating under the firm name of the Wehrle & Sowar Company. They added dry goods and millinery, thus increasing the scope of their already well established trade. Mr. Wehrle is now one of the oldest merchants in Brazil. He supports the Democratic party and has held the office of city councilman for two years. In his church faith and profession he is of the Catholic church. He is identified with the order of Knights of Columbus and Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, Brazil Lodge, No. 762.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

No country has afforded greater opportunities to the poor man than our own, his chances for accumulating wealth being many. Some, it is true, fail to do so, but the best of our population lay by some of their earnings, and in course of time find themselves in the possession of a handsome property. Prominent among this number is Frederick W. Werremeyer, a well-to-do farmer of Harrison township. He was born February 14, 1854, in Prussia, which was likewise the birthplace of his father, John Henry Werremeyer.

Learning the trade of a carpenter and cabinet maker, John H. Werremeyer followed it during his active life. He was twice married by his first wife, having three children, Minnie, Elizabeth and Fritz. His second wife, whose maiden name was Catherine Hackman, spent her entire life in Prussia, dying there at the age of sixty-four years. She bore him six children, namely: John H., Sophia, Herman, Frederick W., August and Lizzie. The latter died when fifteen years old. Herman was for some years employed in government work, and later became a sailor. All of the others emigrated to America, The father, also, came here after the death of his second wife, in 1881, and made his home with his children until his death, in 1884, at the venerable age of eighty-four years.

Frederick W. Werremeyer attended school regularly until fourteen years old, and the following three years worked at any honest employment that he could find. Then, allured by the glowing accounts given of life in America, he came to Indiana, locating in Clay county. He could not speak the English language, and had very little capital to start on, his only endowments being good health, strong hands and a willing heart. Indeed, thus equipped no man need be afraid. Settling in Poland, Cass township, Mr. Werremeyer worked for seventeen years at the carpenter's trade, and with characteristic German thrift saved his earnings, accumulating quite a sum of money. This money he judiciously invested in land, buying in 1888 his present homestead property in section fifteen, Harrison township, in the Eel river valley. A log barn had previously been erected, and also a frame shack, which he and his family occupied a few months. Mr. Werremeyer has been very successful in his operations, and has added excellent improvements, having now a fine set of frame buildings, a good orchard and many shade and ornamental trees, all adding decidedly to the value and beauty of the estate. He has bought additional land, having now three hundred and seventy-six and one half acres, a part of which is in Owen county, and is carrying on general farming with most satisfactory pecuniary results.

On January 8, 1885, Mr. Werremeyer married Ellen R. Bashmore, who was born in Morgan township, Owen county, a daughter of Henry Bashmore, Her father was born in Berks county, Pennsylvania, and coming to Fayette county Indiana, settled as a pioneer in Owen county, and on the farm which he improved is now living. To him and his wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Hahn, five children were born, as follows: Elizabeth, Louisa, Ellen R., Henry and Melinda. Mr. and Mrs. Werremeyer have two children, Franklin William and Albert William. Both Mr. and Mrs. Werremeyer were reared in the religious faith of the Reformed Evangelical church.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

Lafayette WILLIAMS—As an important factor in promoting the agricultural interests of Clay county, and as the descendant of two pioneer families of prominence, Lafayette Williams, of Van Buren township, is eminently worthy of representation in a work of this character. He is an excellent representative of the native-horn citizens of this place. His birth having occurred July 10, 1851, on the farm he now owns and occupies. His father, John H. Williams, was born in Randolph county, North Carolina, and his grandfather, George Williams, was born in North Carolina of Welsh ancestry.

In 1830, accompanied by his wife and six children, George Williams came to Indiana, making the overland journey with a pair of oxen and a cart. He brought with him all of his worldly possessions, which were but few, and like all other emigrants of that time cooked and camped by the way. After arriving in Clay county he first occupied a log cabin situated on land owned by John Graves, and located in the northeast corner of the southeast quarter of section fifteen. Very soon after he entered the west half of the northeast quarter of section twenty, and in the unbroken wilderness built for himself and family a log cabin, which had a puncheon floor and a chimney made of earth and sticks. Deer, wild hogs and turkeys, fattened by the walnuts, beechnuts and acorns found everywhere in the thick woods, furnished plenty of food for the family, and were cooked by the good wife before the open fire, she never in her life using a stove of any description. He kept sheep and raised flax, from which his wife carded, spun and wove the homespun with which she clothed the household. Both he and his wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Presnal, lived to a good old age, dying on the homestead which they redeemed from the forest. They had six children, as follows: John, Eliza, Ferbv, Lucinda, Edward and George.

John H. Williams came with the family to Clay county and subsequently bought from his father one hundred and twenty acres of land located in sections fifteen, twenty-one and twenty-two. On that part situated in section fifteen there was at the time of purchase a log house, in which his son Lafayette was subsequently born. The house, which has been removed to the southeast corner of that section, is still in good repair, notwithstanding that it is one of the oldest houses in the county. He cleared a large part of the land, and was employed in cultivating the soil until his death, November 17, 1851. He was one of the pioneer merchants of this part of the county, having soon after his arrival here opened a store of general merchandise in Brazil, the first in the place. John H. Williams married Mary Graves, a daughter of the John Graves mentioned above. Mr. Graves was a Virginian by birth, and lived in his native state until 1827. In that year he started with his family for Indiana, traveling across the country with ox teams. While on the way the family stopped at the foot of the Blue Ridge, and in the camp their daughter Mary was born. Upon arriving in Clay county, Mr. Graves entered government land in section fifteen, in what is now Van Buren township. The county was then but sparsely populated, and, in fact, none of the adjoining land had many settlements, the nearest post office being in Owen county. He subsequently entered another tract of land, that including the present site of Harmony. When the National Road was built he erected a commodious house and a large barn, and there kept a stage station for a number of years. Mr. Graves married Margaret Smotherman, a native of North Carolina, and both spent their last

years in Harmony. After the death of her first husband, Mrs. Mary (Graves) Williams married his brother, Edward Williams. She died at the age of seventy-five years, in 1902. By her first marriage she had two children, Henry Clay, now living in Kansas; and Lafayette, the special subject of this sketch. By her second marriage she reared six children, namely: Thomas C., Armilda, Isadora, Benjamin F., Jane and Ulysses S.

A life-long resident of Van Buren township, Lafayette Williams succeeded to the ownership of the farm on which he was born and reared and is carrying on general farming with most satisfactory results. He has made improvements of great value and excellence, having enlarged and remodeled the house, set out fruit, shade and ornamental trees, and otherwise added to the attractiveness of the place, the farm, with its well-tilled fields, evincing in a marked degree the thrift, ability and excellent management of the owner. In this state, in 1833, while the woods were standing, was held the first Methodist camp meeting in Clay county.

Mr. Williams married, in July, 1881, Elizabeth E. Buchanan. She was born in Jefferson county, a daughter of George W. Buchanan. Her Grandfather Buchanan, who was of Scotch descent, was a pioneer settler of Jefferson county. Her father served in the Union army during the Civil war, after which he lived a few years in Jefferson county, coming to Clay county in 1869, he carried on farming until his death, in 1895. His wife, whose maiden name was Sarah J. Little, was born in Ohio, and died in 1882 in Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Williams have three children. namely: Judge Leonard, Benjamin H. and Olonzo F. Judge Leonard married Artie Girton, and Benjamin H. married Loena Frost. Politically Mr. Williams casts his ballot in favor of the Republican party, and religiously both he and his wife are members of the United Brethren church.

Blanchard, Charles, editor. County of Clay, Indiana: Historical and Biographical. Chicago: F. A. Battey & Co., Publishers. 1884.

p. 484-485.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES. Sugar Ridge Township

MARTIN S. WILKINSON was born in Gibson County, Ind., February 14, 1846, and is the third of eight children of Aaron and Lucinda (Montgomery) Wilkinson. At the age of seventeen years he entered college, and graduated in 1874. He worked and paid his own way through college. He is one of our solid, self-educated. self-made men. For a number of years he taught in public schools, and was Principal of the Brazil and Bowling Green Schools for five years. On account of failing health, he abandoned teaching and engaged in the general merchandise business, locating at Center Point in 1881. He has and handles a large and well-assorted stock of staple goods. In 1861, he enlisted in Company F, One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Indiana Infantry, as a private, and served five months. He was married, on September 10, 1876, to Clara E. Huff, daughter of Shadrack and Lydia Huff. Two children have been born to them, viz.: Nellie and Hallie. In politics, Mr. Wilkinson has always been a staunch Republican. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of the Masonic fraternity, and of the I. O. O. F. He has a beautiful residence in Center Point; also owns an interest in several farms.

From "Counties of Clay and Owen, Indiana. Historical and Biographical."

Published 1884 by F.A. Battey & Co., Publishers, Chicago Ill.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES. Clay City and Harrison Township

ABRAHAM WILLEN a prominent farmer, is a native of Canton Berne, district of Ed-el-bodn, Switzerland, was born February 26, 1826, and is the fourth son of Christian and Margaret (Bruner) Willen, likewise natives of Switzerland, who emigrated to America in 1837, settled in Holmes County, Ohio, and in 1852, the family, excepting the father, who had meantime died, removed to Owen County in this State. In 1869, Abraham came to Clay County and settled where he now has his home. April 1, 1850, he married, in Coshocton County, Ohio, Mary Ann Bowers. which union gave issue to eight children, of whom four are living -- John, Rosa (wife of Fred Graeber), Christian and Peter. With the exception of a small sum received from his father's estate, Mr. Willen has made his own way through life, and by perseverance and economy, together with the constant aid of his wife, has succeeded in acquiring comfort and independence by the possession of a fine farm of 200 acres, with varied and modern improvements, as a residence, barns, orchards, fencing, etc. Mr. Willen is a Democrat in politics.

From "Counties of Clay and Owen, Indiana. Historical and Biographical."

Published 1884 by F.A. Battey & Co., Publishers, Chicago Ill.

JOHN WILLEN, JR., stock-raiser and farmer, is the eldest son of Abraham and Mary (Bowers) Willen, the former a native of Switzerland, the latter of Germany. Our subject was born in Holmes County, Ohio, October 30, 1852, reared a farmer, and received from the public schools a good English education. His parents removed to this state in 1854, settled in Owen County, and in 1862 removed to Clay County. John began life for himself at twenty-one years of age, and engaged in the lumber business, which now requires his undivided attention, having to manage his farm by the help of hired hands. Mr. Willen has attained his life success by his own efforts, and is the owner of a fine farm of 110 acres, all in a high state of cultivation, well supplied with stock and equipped with improvements, implements and the like. March 11, 1874, he married Ruefine Catherine Graber, a union which has been cemented by the birth of three children -- Mary Elizabeth, Louisa Ella and Charles Frederick. Mr. Willen is a Democrat politically, and he and wife are members of the German Reformed Church.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. I,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

A remarkable character in the history of Clay county is Dr. John Williams, of Washington township. Though not a native of the county, he has lived here for practically three-quarters of a century. As an example of the tenacity of life, he is now nearing the century mark, having been born in 1812. His career of activities has been somewhat diversified, having been a teacher, minister, physician, politician, temperance lecturer, office-holder, merchant, farmer and soldier, he was one of the first "wielders of the birch" in the county seminary, in the days when the teacher made all the pens and ink for the use of his school, and was one of the old-time masters in the flourishing of the pen, specimens of his writing of sixty-five years ago surpassing in symmetry and legibility anything of the kind executed by the teachers of to-day. In 1844 he was elected county treasurer, serving one term of three years under the old constitution. Now in his ninety-eighth year, he is believed to be the oldest surviving ex-county officer in the state of Indiana. During the Civil war he was chaplain of the Forty-third Indiana regiment. Sixty-four years ago he preached the first sermon and performed the first marriage ceremony in the town of Brazil. His remarkable longevity he attributes to his total abstinence from the use of tobacco, whisky, tea and coffee.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

Emanuel L. Winklepleck, of the extensive house-furnishing firm of Winklepleck and Sons, located at Brazil, Indiana, is a native of Ohio, born March 20, 1840, son of Philip and Rosana (Keyser) Winklepleck. The father was born in Virginia and died in Coshocton county, Ohio, in 1853, at the age of sixty-eight years, while the mother, a native of Pennsylvania, passed away at Rowville, Ohio, a decade later, but at the same age of life, They were married in the Buckeye state, and became the parents of twelve children.

Emanuel L. Winklepleck remained on the home farm until his father's death, which occurred when the boy was about thirteen years of age. He worked on the farm in summer and attended the district school in winter, the common lot of those in his station, but when nineteen years of age he had made such progress in his studies that he removed to Owen county, Indiana, for the purpose of teaching others. He continued his work there as a teacher from the fall of 1859 until the commencement of the Civil war. Soon after its outbreak he enlisted in Company C, Fifty-first Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and in that connection served from July, 1861, to September, 1864. After his honorable discharge from the military service Mr. Winklepleck returned to his home in Coshocton county. Shortly afterward he located near Warsaw, Indiana, where he taught school during the fall of 1864, continuing to be thus employed in that locality in the spring and fall of the succeeding year. In the spring of 1866 he taught school in Kosciusko county, Indiana, continuing his educational career in Clay county, near Middlebury, from 1866 to 1869.

From the latter year until the present time, or for a period of nearly forty years, Mr. Winklepleck has been engaged in various fields of business and finance. In 1869 he located in the mercantile business at Knightsville, Indiana, later adding coal mining, having two mines, and operated these in connection with his store interests. In 1890 he removed to Brazil, which has since been his residence city and the center of his mercantile operations, which have expanded into his present large business as a furnisher of everything required by the most fastidious householder. His two sons constitute the other members of the firm. Mr. Winklepleck was one of the organizers of both the Brazil Trust Company and the Citizens National Bank, having served as president of the former since its founding, and as a member of the board of directors of the latter since its establishment. In 1895 he erected a fine modern residence in Brazil on the corner of Walnut and Logan streets. In all, he has erected three valuable buildings in the place, one known as the Winklepleck Block, completed in 1905, being the headquarters of the house-furnishing business of Winklepleck and Sons.

In his political views Mr. Winklepleck is a firm believer in Republicanism, and has always cast his vote in support of its principles. Like many other modern business men and progressive citizens, he is an enthusiast in the furtherance of fraternal relations through the well established orders, and his membership in them includes affiliation with Lodge No. 264, A. F. & A. M., at Brazil; Ben Hur Court, No. 8, and I. O. O. F. Lodge 215. In the month of October, 1869, he was married to Miss Mary A. Sayer, like her husband born in Coshocton county, Ohio. She is the daughter of Stephen D. and Sarah A. (Morgan) Sayer, her parents being natives of New York who migrated to Ohio at an early day. In

that state the father was a prosperous farmer, served as county committeeman and director of the county infirmary, and otherwise was a man of practical influence and progressive tendencies. He became the father of three Sons and three daughters, Mrs. Winklepleck being the third child in order of birth, Mr. and Mrs. Winklepleck have two sons. Edgar Sayer and Asa Elmer Winklepleck, both of whom are associated with their father in business.

Edgar S. Winklepleck was born in Knightsville, Indiana, in the month of January, 1881, and received his education in the common schools of that place and Brazil, as well as at the Commercial College, Valparaiso, Indiana. After completing a full course at the latter institution he joined his father in the house-furnishing business, and is considered one of the bright, substantial young men of the city. His wife was formerly Miss Hila A. Pell, daughter of Dr. George M. Pell, of Carbon, Indiana, and they have one child, George E. Winklepleck. Mr. Winklepleck is an active member of the order of Elks. Asa E. Winklepleck, his younger brother and junior member of the firm of Winklepleck and Sons, was born in Knightsville, Indiana, in 1883. He is also an earnest fraternalist having membership in both the Elks and the order of Masonry (Brazil Lodge, No. 264). He is popular in business as in social circles.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

JAMES A. WINN is a retired farmer residing in Brazil but deriving a gratifying income from a valuable property of four hundred acres of rich and productive land in Clay county. He has lived in this county since the days of the log cabin and the unimproved wilderness and has watched its development as the pioneer settlers have converted their claims into productive farms, while those who have concentrated their energies upon industrial and commercial interests have doubled the towns and cities. Mr. Winn is a native of Muskingum county, Ohio. He was born September 29, 1845, of the marriage of Andrew and Abigail Jane (Rainer) Winn. The father was born in New Jersey, August 1, 1806, while the mother's birth occurred in Orange county, New York, September 10, 1810 They were married in the latter county. Andrew Winn had spent his boyhood days in New Jersey upon the farm of his father, Abraham Winn, but after his marriage lived in Orange county, New York, for some time, removing thence to Muskingum county, Ohio, where he remained for seventeen years. In the fall of 1856 he became a resident of Clay county, Indiana, settling in Dick Johnson township, where he took up his abode in a log cabin, adding thereto a stone chimney through which the smoke from the huge fireplace found egress. The family shared in all the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. They had made the journey to Indiana with two yoke of oxen and a two-horse wagon, thus covering the entire distance from their old home in Ohio. Having lived for some time in Clay county, Mr. Winn removed to Worth county, Missouri, where he remained for about three months and then returned to Clay county, where his remaining days were passed. His death occurred May 8, 1885. In his political views he was a Democrat. His widow long survived and passed away on the 10th of September, 1893. Their family numbered eleven children, seven of whom still survive: Henry R.; Harriet, the wife of Jackson McGranham; Lois Amanda, the wife of John McGranham; James A., of this review; John W.; Andrew F.; and Jesse S.

James A. Winn was reared in the usual manner of farm lads of the frontier. He was but eleven years of age when the family came to Clay county and he assisted in the arduous task of clearing the fields and developing the farm. The public schools afforded him his educational privileges but his opportunities in that direction were somewhat meager, for the schools at that time had not been brought to their present system of perfection in this county. However, he learned many valuable lessons concerning the worth of industry, enterprise and integrity. He learned also the caution and the prudence necessary to those who live on the frontier and he always utilized every chance to the best possible advantage. He completed his arrangements for having a home of his own by his marriage on the 10th of May, 1868, to Miss Caroline Compton, who was born in Dick Johnson township, Clay county, Indiana, in her father's log house, March 1, 1850. Her parents were Jacob L and Elizabeth (Hawthorn) Compton. Her father's birth occurred in Warren county, Ohio, October 22, 1808 and he died April 3, 1877. His wife, who was born February 27, 1818 died December 28, 1897. They were married April 2, 1833. and their family number four sons and five daughters, but only two are now living, Richard M. Compton and Mrs. Winn. It was in September, 1843, that Mr. Compton arrived in Indiana, having journeyed with horse and wagon. He located in Dick Johnson township. His

father, Richard J. Compton, had come to Clay county in the early '40s and entered government land for his children. He was born March 19, 1789, in New Jersey, and died January 29, 1858. His wife, Mary (Lyons) Compton, was born October 15, 1783, and died October 14, 1860. Their family numbered four sons and three daughters, including Jacob L.. Compton, who on arriving in Clay county built a log cabin in Dick Johnson township in 1843. With characteristic energy he began the development and improvement of his place and as time passed added to his land until he had one hundred and sixty acres, which he cultivated and improved up to the time of his death. He served as township trustee and was interested and active in community affairs. His political support was given to the Democracy and he was a consistent and faithful supporter of the Universalist church, his friends and fellow townsmen respecting him for his many sterling traits of character.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Winn purchased forty acres of wild timber land in Dick Johnson township and built a log cabin sixteen by eighteen feet. He split the clapboards for his house and furnished it in primitive style, but their little home was a happy one and the earnest endeavor that was there put forth enabled him to prosper in his farming operations, so that after a brief time he was able to add forty acres to his original purchase. He has since bought land as opportunity has offered and his financial resources have permitted until he is now the owner of nearly four hundred acres of rich and arable land, from which he derives a gratifying annual income. He also owns a good home in Brazil, where he now resides and other city property, all of which he has accomplished through his own efforts and the assistance of his estimable wife, who has indeed been a helpmate to him. In 1879 he erected a good modern dwelling on his farm, doing all the carpenter work himself, his wife helping him put on the cornice boards. They have lived a life of industry, carefully directed by intelligent judgment, and as a result, have attained a gratifying measure of prosperity.

Unto this worthy couple have been born seven children: Josephine Alice, the wife of George Morris; Lucy E., the wife of Herbert Wolf; Mary E., the wife of Melvin Houk; Austin M.; Oliver, who died in infancy; Myrtle C., and James C.

Mr. Winn is a member of the Brazil Lodge No. 264, A. F. & A. M. and is loyal to the teachings and tenets of the craft. He votes with the Democratic party, but has never sought nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his time and attention upon his business affairs, which creditably directed, have brought him a gratifying measure of success, so that he is now enabled to live in well earned ease, his home being supplied with all of the comforts and some of the luxuries which go to make life worth living.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. I,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

JOHN W. WINN, who follows farming and stock raising in Jackson township, Clay county, was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, September 30, 1847, and his parents, Andrew and Abigail (Raynor) Winn, were born in New Jersey and New York respectively, but both were reared and married in Orange county, New York, of Scotch-Irish and Dutch descent respectively. They moved from New York to Ohio soon after their marriage, and in 1856 came to Clay county, Indiana, where Mr. Winn purchased from Samuel Weaver one hundred and sixty acres in Dick Johnson township, paying two thousand dollars in gold for the farm, and he cleared about one hundred acres of the tract and placed his land under cultivation. He also owned one hundred and sixty acres in another tract in Dick Johnson township, and they continued their residence on the former homestead until 1883, when Mr. Winn spent a short time in the west and returning to Clay county bought another farm of one hundred and forty acres. He became well known throughout the county, and died at the age of seventy-eight years, a life-long supporter of Democratic principles. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Winn were eleven children, nine sons and two daughters.

John W. Winn, the eighth born of the eleven children, received his educational training in the Carter school of Dick Johnson township, and after his marriage he rented land of his father for twelve years. He then bought eighty acres from Elijah Smith, but in 1883 he left the farm and went to Worth county, Missouri, but in a short time returned and located on his present homestead in 1884. He now owns one hundred and five acres of rich and fertile land, on which he has placed many valuable improvements, and has done his own carpenter work on his buildings.

On the 26th of April, 1869, Mr. Winn was married to Eliza K. Lemmons, who was born in Vigo county, Indiana, September 22, 1851. Her father, William Lemmons, was a native of Kentucky, but coming to Indiana after his marriage located in Vigo county. He was three times married and had eighteen children. Mr. and Mrs. Winn have had twelve children, four sons and eight daughters, all of whom were born in Clay county. Throughout his mature years Mr. Winn has given his political allegiance to the Democracy, and from 1890 to 1895 he served as the trustee of Jackson township and for six years was also a member of its advisory board. He has been a member of the Masonic fraternity since 1872, affiliating with Brazil Lodge No. 264, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. I,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

Warren D. Wolfe, a native of Connecticut, born in the year 1834; came to Clay county, Indiana, in 1862; worked as a farm hand, and began teaching soon after coming here in the public schools of Dick Johnson township. In the fall of 1865 he married Sarah Webster, daughter of Joshua Webster, a pioneer of the north end of the county. To them were born ten children—five sons and five daughters, of whom two sons and three daughters survive. Mr. Wolfe taught continuously for six years in Dick Johnson township, from 1864 to 1870, and as many as three terms, or different schools, within the same year. For three years he had the schools of the township practically to himself, as there was then no other resident teacher, with the supply short in other townships. In the fall of 1870 he was elected trustee of his township, the first two years' term. In the campaign of 1872 he was the Democratic candidate for sheriff, but was defeated with the ticket generally. In 1888 he was elected county commissioner, then re-elected, serving six years. Having moved from the farm to the city of Brazil, he was elected a member of the city council in 1904 for the term of two years and in 1906 a member of the county council for the term of four years. The tenure of official positions and service entrusted to him by the public numbers fourteen years, in the discharge of the responsibilities and duties of which he has acquitted himself honorably and efficiently. He owns and occupies a desirable and valuable property in the north part of the city and a well improved and valuable farm, on which he lived for many years, in Dick Johnson township.

AMOS H. WRIGHT, farmer and stock-raiser, was born in Washington Township, this county, March 26, 1830, and is the youngest son of Elijah and Elizabeth (Deal) Wright, natives respectively of South Carolina and Pennsylvania. Elijah Wright emigrated to Indiana in early manhood, located in Harrison County, and married; but in 1827 removed to Clay County, entered 180 acres, and erected a cabin. In 1835. he sold this land and opened a farm on Clay Prairie, where Mrs. Wright died, leaving six children. He subsequently married again, moved to Missouri, and died in 1856, aged fifty-five years. Amos H. Wright, being left motherless at five years of age, was reared by his step-grandfather, Amos W. Hedge, who came hither in 1835. Our subject endured many hardships, having been without shoes until his seventh year. He began for himself when twenty years of age, with a few cattle and hogs. February 8, 1852, he married Miss Ailey Jane, daughter of Daniel and Polly Fisher, as a result of which there are living the following children: Daniel and William (twins), Amos H., Theodore, Emory, Ota and Mary M. After marriage, Mr. Wright rented his step-grandfather's farm, and in 1870 purchased the old homestead. He has now, in all, 331 acres, of which 200 are cultivated. He has lived in this township nearly fifty years, and has noted the many changes of that period. In the early days he was an expert hunter. While a resident of Missouri, he assisted in killing five bears and one panther, and has known a day's hunt to result in killing thirty-six deer. He has been a large wheat-grower of this county, having grown from 300 to 700 bushels per year. Mrs. Wright belongs to the United Brethren Church.

FRANK M. WRIGHT, proprietor of a grocery and provision store, was born in Preble County, Ohio, October 17, 1837, and is the eighth of twelve children of Isaac and Rachel (Kelley) Wright, natives of Virginia, he being of English descent, and his wife of Irish. They located in Illinois in 1844, where they both died, he in 1863, and she in 1870. Frank was reared on a farm in Illinois, with limited common school privileges, remaining home until twenty-three years of age; then he farmed for himself a few years. In January, 1867, he located in Brazil, and engaged in making brick during the summer, and mining coal in the winter season, which he followed for seven years, when he stopped making brick and worked altogether in the mines for two years, at the end of which he was engaged in teaming for a few years, hauling a great deal of the material for the court house and jail of Clay County. In 1879, he bought one-half interest in the grocery store of Joseph Spry. This partnership existed in the firm name of Spry & Wright for one

year, when Mr. Wright purchased the entire stock, which he has successfully managed since that time, his business being now located on East Main Street, where he is commanding a liberal patronage as a reward for his honesty and fair dealing. He was married, August 13, 1863, to Jane Carruthers, a native of Ohio, and of Scotch descent. To them were born nine children, three only of whom are living: Thomas B., Stephen I., and Gracie, the others dying young. Thomas and Stephen are bright little boys. Mr. Wright is a member of the Baptist Church, as is also his wife. He is also a member of the Masonic fraternity and Knights of Honor, and the Knights and Ladies of Honor. Mr. Wright is an energetic business man, but he has met with misfortune. He lost his barn with contents by fire in September, 1883.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

BERT YOCOM, superintendent of the Brazil office of the Prudential Insurance Company, is well known in Clay county, being one of its intelligent as well as one of its representative citizens. He was born in Staunton, this county, in 1874. His father, William F. Yocom, was born in Dick Johnson township, Clay county, September 14, 1847, and was a representative of one of the old pioneer families of this part of the state, being the fourth in order of birth in a family of ten children, whose father, Isom Yocom, came to Clay county from Kentucky in 1832—the year in which the Black Hawk war occurred. Every evidence of pioneer life here existed. The forest trees stood in their primeval strength and the prairies were covered with their native grasses. Only here and there had a little cabin been built, showing that the seeds of civilization were being planted in this part of the state. The grandfather bore an active and helpful part in the general agricultural development of the community and was identified with various events which left their impress upon the pioneer history. His son, William F. Yocom, was here reared amid the wild scenes and environments of frontier life. He began teaching school when eighteen years of age and followed that profession for fifteen years or more. His early educational privileges were limited to the opportunities offered by the common schools, but being ambitious and persevering he gained by hard study and close application an education much in advance of the majority of the people of the day. Determining to devote his energies to lines of life demanding intellectuality and close application he took up the study of law and in 1874 was admitted to the bar. He then practiced at Staunton until 1890, when he came to Brazil and was appointed Deputy County Auditor, and served until his death, July 15, 1892. He served as deputy sheriff of the county from 1875 until 1877, under J. B. Yocom, his uncle, and while he was filling that position the county records were removed from Bowling Green, Kentucky, Mr. Yocom assisting in this task. He was a member of Staunton lodge, A. F. and A. M., and acted as its master. His political allegiance was given to the Democracy and in citizenship he was progressive and helpful. He married Miss Mary J. Reeder, who was born on the present site of Center Point, Clay county, Indiana, March 19, 1853. The wedding was celebrated March 19, 1874—the twenty-first anniversary of the bride's birth. Mrs. Yocom is still living and by her marriage she became the mother of eight children, seven of whom survive: Bert, Harvey C., Ross D., Bessie O., William F., Jr., Eugene F. and Nellie M.

Bert Yocom pursued his education in the graded schools of Staunton and at the age of sixteen years began teaching school. After following that profession for two years he entered the employ of the Baldwin Music Company, with which he continued for six years. He next engaged with the Brazil Steam Laundry and after two years spent in that way in 1901 he became connected with the Prudential Insurance Company as an agent. On the 9th of April, 1902, he became local superintendent of the Brazil office and has since acted in this capacity, being one of the best known insurance men of his district.

On the 16th of September, 1906, Mr. Yocom was married to Miss Catherine Stewart, who was born near Morgan's Crossing, June 9, 1882, a daughter of James and Anna (Wimsey) Stewart. Her father was a native of Newburg, Kentucky, and her mother of Brazil, Indiana. Both are still living and Mr. Stewart is a coal miner. His political endorse-

ment at the polls is given to the Democracy. Unto him and his wife were born seven children, namely: Mrs. Yocom, Della, Peter, Frank, Margaret, Paul and Helen.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Yocom has been born one son, William Francis. Mr. Yocom is a member of the Brazil Concert Band, with which he has been identified for thirteen years. He has always been a lover of music and finds great pleasure in his association with the band. His political allegiance is given to the Democracy, but the honors and emoluments of office have had no attraction for him, as he has always preferred to give his undivided attention to his business duties and interests.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

William M. ZELLER is classed with the prominent, energetic and successful business men, whose labors have been an essential element in the upbuilding of Brazil. His life has been one of continuous activity, in which has been accorded due recognition of labor and who is to-day numbered among the substantial residents of the city. He is a member of the firm of Zeller, McClellan & Company, miners and shippers of coal, is also president of the Brazil Clay Company, president of the American Coal & Mining Company and president of the Citizens' National Bank. His interests are thus varied and extensive, and by perseverance, determination and honorable effort he has achieved his present position of prominence in business circles.

Mr. Zeller is one of Clay county's native sons, his birth having occurred in Jackson township October 31, 1861. He was one of four children born unto John H. and Susan A. (Bocher) Zeller. His paternal grandfather was a native of Bucks county, Pennsylvania, while the great-grandfather came to this country from Switzerland in 1740 taking up his abode in Bucks county, where he became prominent in public life and business circles.

John H. Zeller was born in Butler county, Ohio, December 8, 1833, and spent his boyhood days there under the parental roof. He left the farm, however, when a young man, thinking to find other pursuits more congenial, and secured a clerkship in a clothing store at Hamilton, Ohio. When his labors and economy had brought him sufficient capital to enable him to embark in business on his own account, he opened a drug store in Hamilton and also made trips through the county, selling drugs. The year 1856 witnessed his arrival in Indiana and the establishment of his home in the wilderness of Jackson township, Clay county. There he engaged in the operation of a sawmill, becoming one of the pioneer settlers of the district. Subsequently he removed to Harmony, where he engaged in clerking for Robert Wingate. with whom he continued for some time and then bought out the business of his employer. For a number of years thereafter he conducted the store, but in 1873 turned his attention to the development of the rich coal deposits of this part of the state. He began mining coal, and sunk one of the first shafts here and opened what was known as the Briar Hill mine. For twenty years or more he carried on mining operations and in this business was very successful, after which he turned his attention to farming. In 1884 he entered the banking business, though at that time banking in Brazil was a difficult problem. He from the start had, as in former years, and in fact throughout all his life, the absolute confidence of the people, and made the banking business a success, as in fact he had all enterprises to which he gave his support. In 1900 he retired and enjoyed in well earned ease the fruits of his former toil until he was called to his final rest, July 29, 1904. For a long period his political allegiance was given to the Democracy, but during the last twenty years of his life he voted with the Prohibition party, being a stalwart advocate of its principles. He was strongly in sympathy with the temperance cause, and his influence was ever found on the side of right, justice, truth and improvement. He belonged to the Methodist Episcopal church, and his daily conduct was an exemplification of his religious faith. His wife was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, on the 25th of May, 1842, and died December 30. 1890. They were married in Jackson township, this county, June 4, 1859. and their children, four in number, were: William M.,

whose name introduces this record; Clem M. ; Charles H.; and Minnie E., the wife of William J. Snyder.

William M. Zeller in his boyhood days attended the public schools and received his business training through the assistance which he rendered his father in carrying on the store at Harmony. When twenty-five years of age he became connected with coal-mining interests, and has since been connected with this business, which is one of the most important resources of Clay county. He is now president of the Zeller-McClellan Coal Company, which ships its output to all parts of the country, especially through Indiana, Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin. The company mines the lower vein Brazil block coal, which is unsurpassed and almost unequalled in the entire Mississippi valley. Mr. Zeller is also president of the American Coal & Mining Company, and extending his activities to other fields, has become the president of the Brazil Clay Company and also of the Citizens' National Bank, of which he has been president since the organization, May 15, 1907. This corporation is capitalized at one hundred thousand dollars.

Mr. Zeller was married September 22, 1887, to Miss Mary M. Herr, who was born in Greencastle, Indiana, January 22, 1866. a daughter of Simon and Drusilla (Hurd) Herr. Her father was born in Washington, Pennsylvania, January 9, 1838, and in 1870 arrived in Brazil, where for two years he engaged in merchandising as a dealer in shoes. Since that time he has been engaged in the drug business, and is one of the well known and representative merchants of the city. His wife, who was born in the state of New York in 1835, died in 1870.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Zeller have been born five sons: John Herr, Simon, Lawrence Willard, William McClellan and Richard Douglas. The parents are identified through membership relations with the Methodist Episcopal church, and Mr. Zeller belongs to Central lodge, No. 541, A. F. & A. NI.; to Brazil lodge, No. 762, B. P. O. E. He votes with the Democracy but has never sought nor desired office, preferring to concentrate his time and energies upon his business affairs. He is a representative of our best type of American manhood and chivalry. By perseverance, determination and honorable effort, he has overcome all obstacles which bar the path to success in a business career, and has reached the goal of prosperity, while his genuine worth, broad mind and public spirit have made him, a promoter of public thought and action.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

Dr. WILLIAM H. ZENOR is well known in Brazil and is numbered among the native sons of Clay county, his birth having occurred upon a farm a mile west of Bowling Green on the 25th of February, 1837. His parents were David and Elizabeth Zenor, who for over sixty years lived upon one farm. The father was born in Harrison county, Kentucky, in the year 1801, and when twenty-one years of age came direct from his native state to Indiana, settling in Clay county. His wife was also from that county. Their farm, which was pleasantly located a mile west of Bowling Green, comprised three forties, two of which were entered direct from the government by David Zenor, who brought the land under a high state of cultivation, carrying on the farm work with good success for many years Both he and his wife were of sturdy German stock and there are yet numerous relatives of the family living in Harrison county, Indiana, among whom is the Hon. W.T. Zenor who has recently completed his third or fourth term in congress. Mr. and Mrs. David Zenor continued to reside in Clay County until called to their final rest both passing away at an advanced age, the father dying when nearly ninety-three years of age, while the mother lived to the age of eighty-three. Their family numbered ten children six sons and four daughters.

Dr. Zenor of this review, however, is the only one of the boys now living in Indiana. His boyhood days were spent upon the old home farm. where he early became familiar with the duties and labors that fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He also spent several years with relatives in Illinois, and he supplemented his early education acquired in the public schools, by study in Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Illinois. The little temple of learning in which he mastered the elementary branches, however, was a log schoolhouse of primitive construction. He afterward was a student in the common schools, which he attended through the winter months while in the spring and summer he worked in the fields. In 1859 he matriculated in the Wesleyan University where he remained until 1862 In December, 1907, he returned to his alma mater as a visitor and found it a flourishing school of nearly a thousand students before whom he read his ode to the school, which he had written for that occasion. During his college days, however, he put aside his text-books in order to respond to his country's call, enlisting in 1862 with a company organized at Bowling Green and which became Company D, of the Sixth Indiana Cavalry, he served as a non-commissioned officer until the close of the war in 1865 and was in a number of hotly contested engagements

At the close of the war Mr. Zenor was honorably discharged and returned home After a brief period he engaged in the drug business at Hennepin, Illinois, where for several years he continued in that line under the firm name of Zenor & Seaton. In 1869 he sold out to James H. Seaton, who carried on the business for a number of years thereafter. Dr. Zenor then removed to western Missouri and later to Kansas. He spent nearly twenty-five years in the west devoting his energies during much of that time to the drug business, also practicing medicine for ten years at Crestline and at Lake City Kansas. He began the manufacture of a special medicine, which he had prepared and which has had a good sale for fifteen or twenty years. On leaving the west he returned to Indiana, locating in Brazil, where he is still engaged in the manufacture of his medicines.

Dr, Zenor was united in marriage in 1867 to Miss Mary E. Peacock, and they have two children Lillie May who is now the widow of Charles

Farlow and Arthur, who married Miss Annie Murray, and is editor of the Carbon (Indiana) Chronicle. Dr. Zenor is a man of marked literary taste and of considerable talent in that direction. He has now in manuscript a small volume of poems and a story entitled "When I Was in Tennessee." The prose volume is the account of his travels at the time and since the war in the mountains of Tennessee and Alabama. His residence during the last sixteen years has been 617 East Pinkley street, Brazil, Indiana.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

JOHN ZURCHER, who for many years has been an industrious and useful citizen of Washington township, Clay county, has a pretty home in section 35, He was born in Holmes county, Ohio, September 30, 1856, being a son of Peter and Annie (Steiner) Zurcher, the father a native of Switzerland, and the mother of Ohio of German ancestry. They were married in the Buckeye state. and about five years later moved to Harrison township, Clay county, Indiana, where the husband bought the farm upon which his widow now resides. Mr. Zurcher died in 1886. Nine children were born to their union, of whom three sons and two daughters are still alive.

John Zurcher received his education in the country schools of Harrison township and at the German school connected with the Reformed Lutheran church known as Butro Chapel. To this denomination the family has been stanchly attached for many generations. Mr. Zurcher lived on the farm with his parents until October 4, 1883, when he married Rachel Moyer, who died in September, 1888, leaving two children—Allie K. and William H., both living with their grandfather. Henry Moyer, in Clay City. On October 6, 1891, Mr. Zurcher married Nancy E. Hudson, born in Washington township, Clay county, on the 20th of January, 1864, daughter of Jacob and Margaret J. (Luther) Hudson, of the township named. To this union was born one child, Mary F. Zurcher, now seven years of age.

Upon leaving his parents Mr. Zurcher conducted a rented farm for a time, but his principal work was that of operating a thresher. He has also owned and operated a saw mill to advantage. At his second marriage he built a four-room house on land given to his wife by her father, and Mr. Zurcher also owns an interest in his father's homestead. The family home is located on a tract of five acres in section 35, Washington township. Mr. Zurcher is connected with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being a member of Bowling Green lodge No. 513. In politics he is a Democrat, and, as stated, is strongly rooted in the faith of the Reformed Lutheran church.

Biography from History of Clay Co., Indiana, Vol. II,

au: William Travis,
publ. 1909

COLONEL WILLIAM HARRISON ZIMMERMAN, a brave soldier and officer of the Civil war, has also been among the most successful coal operators within the state of Indiana, being one of the founders and promoters of the block coal fields in the vicinity of Brazil. He has been retired from active business for a number of years, having fairly won his spurs both in business and war. Born at Centre Square, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, on the 14th of September, 1836, he is a son of Nathan and Mary (Shaw) Zimmerman, both parents being natives of Montgomery county. The father was an excellent millwright and spent his life engaged in the various branches of his trade in his native county. Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Zimmerman were the parents of five sons, all now deceased except the Colonel.

William H. Zimmerman was educated in the schools of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and although his father died when the boy was only fourteen years of age, the honor attaching to labor and frugality had already been firmly impressed upon him. The youth worked in the rolling mills and nail factory, attending school when he could. At one time he was a pupil at Poland, Ohio, having saved sufficient to enable him to pursue a course at the institution located there. At the outbreak of the Civil war, while residing at Poland, he raised Company E of the Twenty-third Ohio Infantry, which was the first regiment of the state to enlist for the three years' term of service. Of this company, which was officially designated as above upon its arrival at Camp Chase, Columbus, young Zimmerman was elected captain. The personnel of his regiment made it one of the most famous in the Union army. As it was the first to enter the full three years' service in Ohio, Governor Denison was especially anxious that it should not only be finely equipped but officered by the best men at his command. It therefore numbered such men as Col. W. S. Rosecrans, who afterward became one of the great generals of the war, and still later a public man of national eminence ; Lieutenant Colonel Stanley Mathews, who after the war was associate justice of the United States supreme court ; Major Rutherford B. Hayes, afterward president of the United States; and William McKinley, Jr., who enlisted as a private in Company E, whose sterling worth Captain Zimmerman first recognized, he having taken young McKinley from the ranks and made him corporal of the company. No other regiment in the armies of the north had the distinction of furnishing two presidents of the United States, with other distinguished characters of American history. Colonel Zimmerman served his three years in Company E of the Twenty-third Regiment, except thirty days' furlough, in January, 1862, when he returned home and married his first wife. At the expiration of his three years term he was promoted to be Lieutenant Colonel of the One Hundred and Seventy-seventh Regiment Ohio Volunteer infantry. He participated in all its skirmishes and battles. He was with Rosecrans in 'West Virginia and with McClellan during his Maryland campaigns, and his regiment opened the engagement at South Mountain, which was preliminary to the battle of Antietam. During this Maryland campaign the regiment was a part of the famous Ninth Corps under command of General Burnside, and at the battle of Antietam on September 17, 1862, which was the bloodiest battle of the war for the number engaged, the regiment participated in the capture of the "Stone Bridge" across Antietam creek on the extreme left of McClelland. He also participated in the battles of Lynchburg and Lexington.

At Bluffton Island, with two companies of men, he effected the capture of about one hundred of Morgan's historic raiders. His military career ended with the surrender of General Joseph E. Johnston, which practically terminated the war. At that time his regiment was at Raleigh, North Carolina, and thence was sent to Cleveland, Ohio, where it was mustered out of the service in July, 1865.

In 1868 Colonel Zimmerman went to Indiana to prospect the coal fields in the vicinity of Brazil, finding them of such unusual value that, with Messrs, Niblock and Alexander, he energetically commenced their development. The firm of Niblock, Zimmerman and Alexander was among the pioneers in the establishment of this great industry in the state of Indiana. Colonel Zimmerman also organized the Otter Creek Coal Company, and has been among the heaviest prospectors and actual operators in the state. He retired from business with a large competency in 1904.

Colonel Zimmerman has always been an earnest supporter of the Republican party, and it is perhaps needless to add, was especially vigorous in the campaigns headed by his old army comrades, Hayes and McKinley. He has been an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic for many years, being identified with the General Canby post, and, as an Elk, belongs to Lodge No. 762. He was first united in marriage to Miss Fannie Hezlip, January 10, 1862. She was born in Eastbrook, Pennsylvania, January 7, 1838, and died on the 26th of March, 1868. On June 23, 1869, he married Miss Maria A. Niblock, daughter of Rev. Isaiah and Rachel Niblock, natives of Butler county, Pennsylvania. By this union four children were born, three of whom survive. Arthur H. Zimmerman resides in Brazil and is largely interested in the development of clay products in Clay and Parke counties. Nellie F. is now the wife of H. B. Harper, also of Brazil. W. Paul Zimmerman, the third child, is the secretary and treasurer of the Hall-Zimmerman Block Coal Company of Brazil, and is one of the members of the firm.